



Dance in the
Wampire Bund

NOZOMU TAMAKI

VOLUME 14

Tamaki Nozomu Presents Dance In The Vampire Bund 14

DANCE IN THE VAMPIRE BUND

14

NOZOMU TAMAKI

Ne me bannissez point de votre souvenir ;

Et, puisque mon trépas conserve votre gloire,

Pour vous en revanche conservez ma mémoire,

Et dites quelquefois, en déplorant mon sort :

« Si je ne t'avais aimée, je ne serais pas mort. »

Benish me not from your remembrance.

Since my doom preserves your honor,

to recompense yourself for this, preserve my memory

and say sometimes when deploring my fate,

"Had he not loved me, he would not have died."

Corneille, Le Cid, V.7

Dance in the Vampire Bund

VOLUME 14



story &
art by Nozomu Tamaki

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DANCE IN THE VAMPIRE BUND VOL. 14

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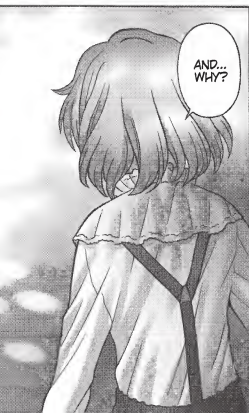


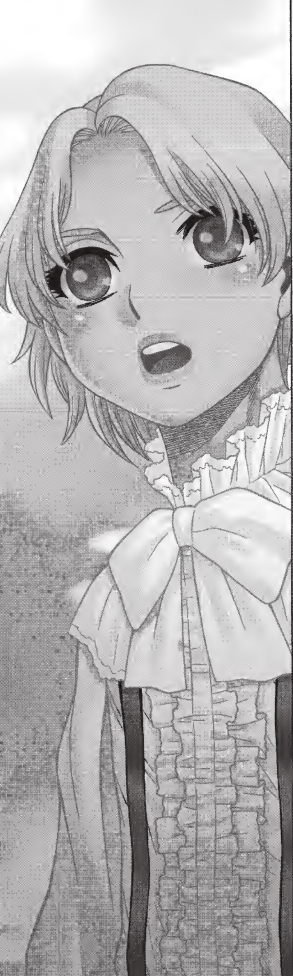
FOLLOW US ONLINE: www.gomanga.com

READING DIRECTIONS

This book reads from *right to left*, Japanese style.
If this is your first time reading manga, you start
reading from the top right panel on each page and
take it from there. If you get lost, just follow the
numbered diagram here. It may seem backwards
at first, but you'll get the hang of it! Have fun!!







Chapter 76: A Long-Ago Promise



WHEN I DID, IT FELL OFF. HERE, I SHALL RETURN IT TO YOU.

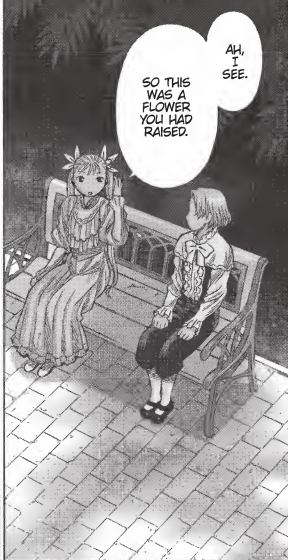
MY APOLOGIES. I HAVE DONE AN UNFORTUNATE THING. IT WAS SO LOVELY, I COULD NOT HELP BUT TOUCH IT.



IT, AH...

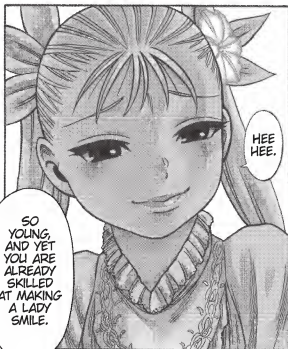
NO, NO!

IT'S ALL RIGHT! PLEASE, KEEP IT!



SO THIS WAS A FLOWER YOU HAD RAISED.

AH, I SEE.

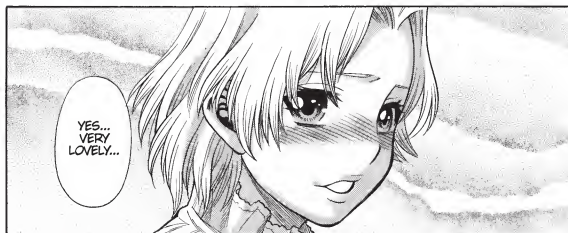
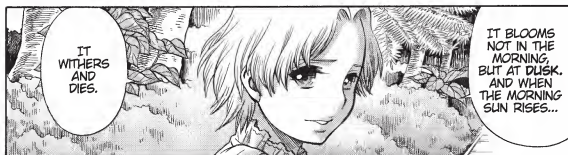
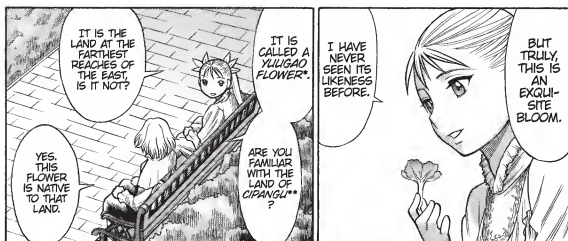


HEE HEE.

SO YOUNG, AND YET YOU ARE ALREADY SKILLED AT MAKING A LADY SMILE.

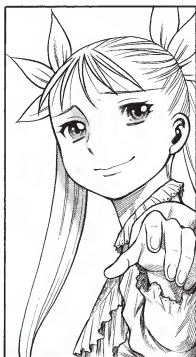


IT LOOKS VERY PRETTY ON YOU.

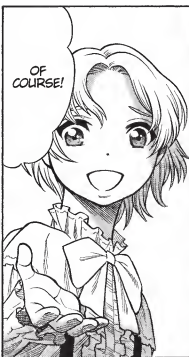


*The yuugao flower is commonly called the moonflower. It is known for its night-blooming white flowers.

**Cipangu is an archaic name for Japan, taken from the diaries of Marco Polo.



OF
COURSE!



OH!
I HAVE
A FAR
PRETTIER
ONE THAT
I AM
CURRENTLY
RAISING.

MAY
I?

I HAVEN'T
SHOWN IT
TO ANYONE
YET. WOULD
YOU LIKE TO
SEE IT?



FATHER
...?



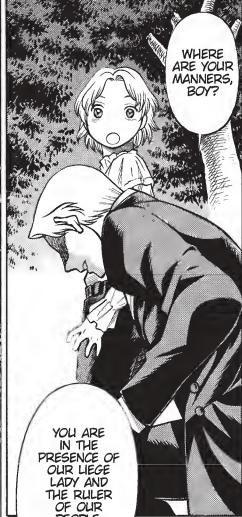
ALPHONSE.



MINA...

TEPES
?!

TEPES...



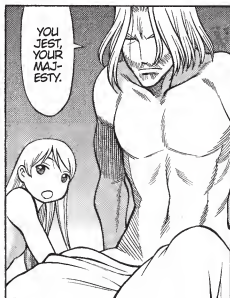
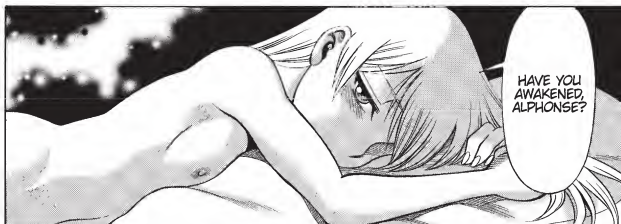
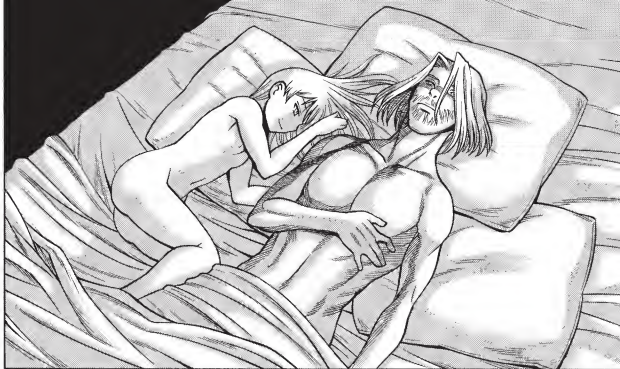
WHERE
ARE YOUR
MANNERS,
BOY?

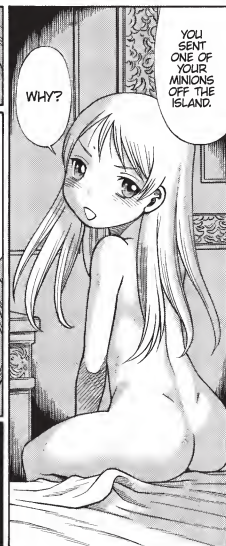
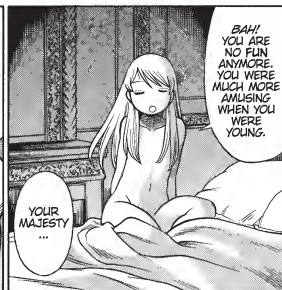
YOU ARE
IN THE
PRESENCE OF
OUR LIEGE
LADY AND
THE RULER
OF OUR
PEOPLE,
QUEEN MINA
TEPES.



WHA
...?

YOU'RE
MINA...

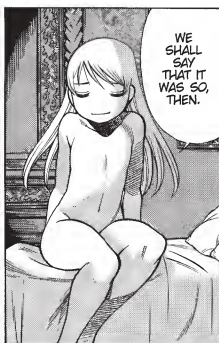






I
MUST
OBEY.

IF YOU
WISH
TO KNOW,
YOU
COULD
SIMPLY
ORDER
ME TO
TALK.



WE
SHALL
SAY
THAT IT
WAS SO,
THEN.



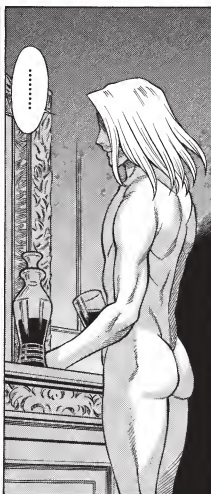
WE TWO
ARE
BEYOND
THAT.

I WOULD
NEVER
DO SOME-
THING SO
GALICHE...

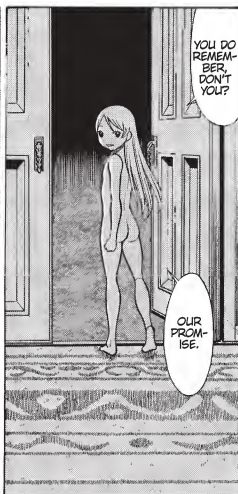


OUR
PROM-
ISE,
EH?

.....



.....



YOU DO
REMEM-
BER,
DON'T
YOU?

OUR
PROM-
ISE.

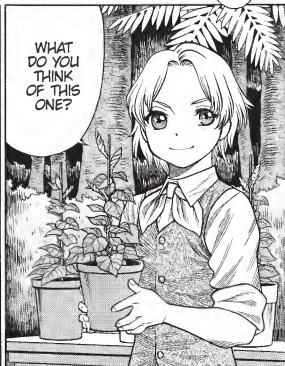


SEE?



I WOULD
SAY IT IS
A VERY
FINE
SPECIMEN,
INDEED.

HM.
ITS VINES
ARE LONG,
AND ITS
LEAVES
BROAD. ITS
COLOR IS
DEEP AND
SHINY, AS
WELL.



WHAT
DO YOU
THINK
OF THIS
ONE?



WELL,
I THINK THIS
FLOWER'S
BEAUTY
COMES NOT
FROM ITS
EXPENSIVE
SEED.

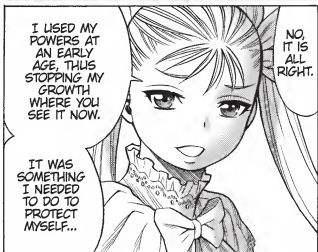
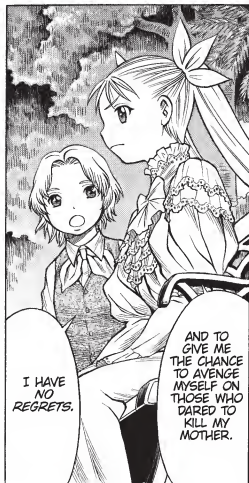
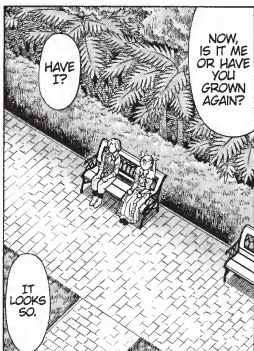
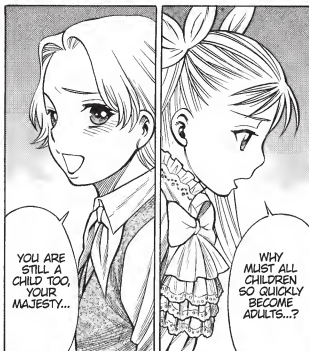
IT COMES
FROM THE
LOVE AND
CARE YOU
HAVE
SHOWN IN
RAISING IT.

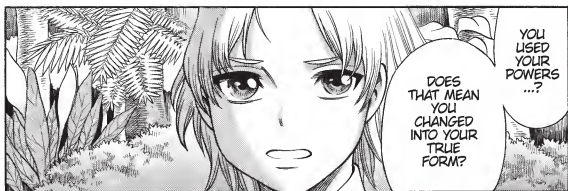


WONDER-
FUL!
YOU ARE
LEARNING.

THIS
IS MY
BEST
ONE
YET.

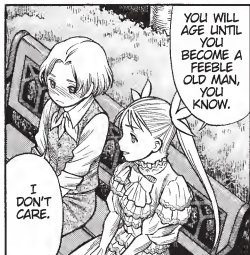
I HEARD
THIS SEED
IS WORTH
ITS WEIGHT
IN GOLD IN
CIPANGU.





DOES
THAT MEAN
YOU
CHANGED
INTO YOUR
TRUE
FORM?

YOU
USED
YOUR
POWERS
...?



YOU WILL
AGE UNTIL
YOU
BECOME A
FEEBLE
OLD MAN,
YOU
KNOW.

I
DON'T
CARE.



OH.

WELL
THEN,
I WILL
NEVER
USE MY
POWERS,
EVER.



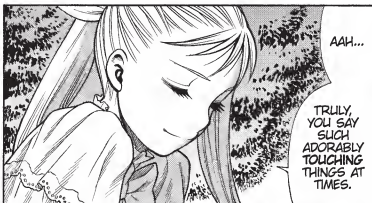
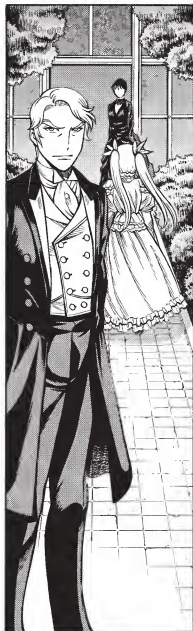
YES. UNLIKE
HUMANS WHO
ARE TURNED, WE
WHO ARE BORN
AS VAMPIRES
WILL GROW
FROM INFANT
TO ADULT LIKE
ANY OTHER
MORTAL.

IT IS WHEN
WE HAVE
MATURED
AND FIRST
DISCOVER OUR
TRUE FORM
THAT WE
AWAKEN AS
VAMPIRES.



I WANT
TO BE
YOUR...

YOUR
FRIEND,
FOREVER.
SO I
DON'T
MIND
GROWING
OLD.

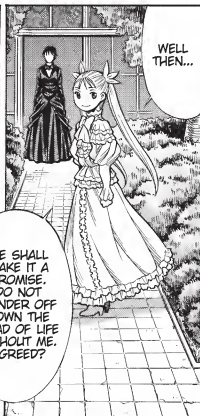


AAH...

TRULY,
YOU SAY
SUCH
ADORABLY
TOUCHING
THINGS AT
TIMES.



WE SHALL
MAKE IT A
PROMISE.
DO NOT
WANDER OFF
DOWN THE
ROAD OF LIFE
WITHOUT ME.
AGREED?



WELL
THEN...



I MUST
SPEAK WITH
THE LORENZO
FAMILY ABOUT
HOW THIS WILL
AFFECT THE
KINGDOM'S
POLICIES.

THE RISE OF
THIS NAPOLEON
FELLOW IS
GREATLY
ALTERING THE
POWER
STRUCTURE
ALL ACROSS
EUROPE.



I SHALL
SOON BE
LEAVING
FOR
FLORENCE.

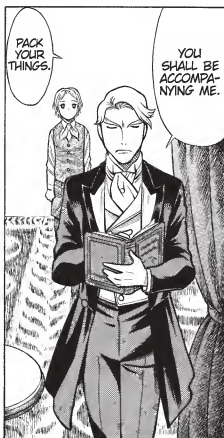


BUT, FATHER...!
I PROMISED HER
MAJESTY THAT
I WOULD SHOW
HER HOW TO
PRUNE THE
TREES IN THE
GREENHOUSE
TOMORROW.



IT IS HIGH
TIME YOU
BEGAN
LEARNING
YOUR
DUTIES.

ALPHONSE,
YOU ARE MY
ELDEST SON
AND HEIR.
SOMEDAY,
YOU WILL
BE THE
MARQUIS DE
BORGIANI.



PACK
YOUR
THINGS.

YOU
SHALL BE
ACCOMPANY-
ING ME.



THE TRUE
DUTY OF THE
BORGIANI IS
TO PROTECT
THE TEPE'S
ROYAL FAMILY
FROM THE
SHADOWS.

WE LISTEN
TO THE
WHISPERS.
WE SEARCH IN
THE DARKNESS.
WE SEEK OUT
ANY WHO
WISH HER
MAJESTY ILL,
AND DESTROY
THEM BEFORE
THEY BREED
TROUBLE.



BUT I
WANT
TO--

ALPHONSE!
YOU MUST
LEARN
DISCRETION,
BOY. AND
QUICKLY!



NO.



I SERVE
HER AS MY
FATHER DID.
AND I
SHALL DIE
AS HE DID,
ONE DAY.

AS WILL YOU,
IN TIME.
SUCH IS THE
DUTY AND THE
FATE OF THE
SONS OF
BORGIANI.



YOU BEAR
MY FATHER'S
NAME. HE
SERVED HER
MAJESTY IN
SECRET, WITH
DISCRETION,
AND GAVE
HIS LIFE
DEFENDING
HER FROM
HARM.



DO NOT
SAY
SUCH
FOOLISH
THINGS.

BUT,
FATHER
--!



AND I'M
NEVER
GOING TO
BE A
VAMPIRE!!

NO,
I WILL NOT!
I DON'T
WANT TO
BE YOUR
HEIR!
I DON'T
WANT THAT
DUTY!!



SILENCE!



NEVER
SAY THAT
AGAIN.
UNDER-
STAND?

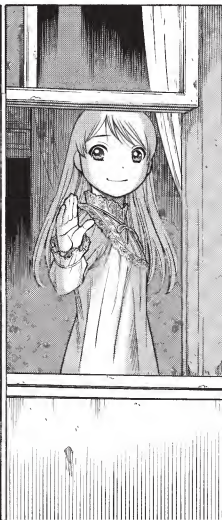
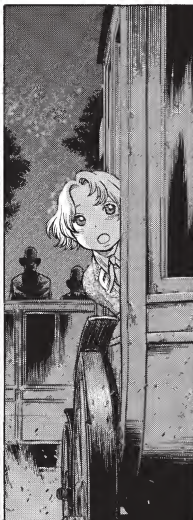
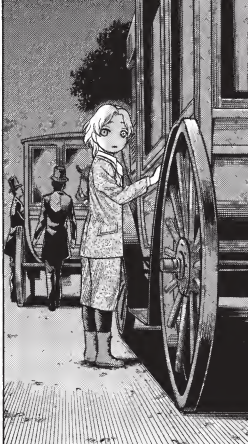
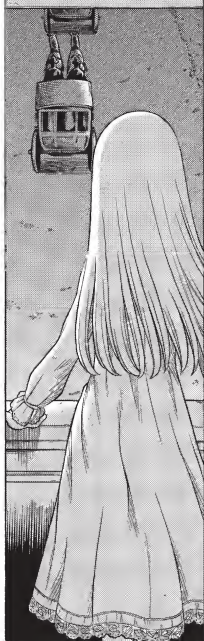
WE
LEAVE
TONIGHT.

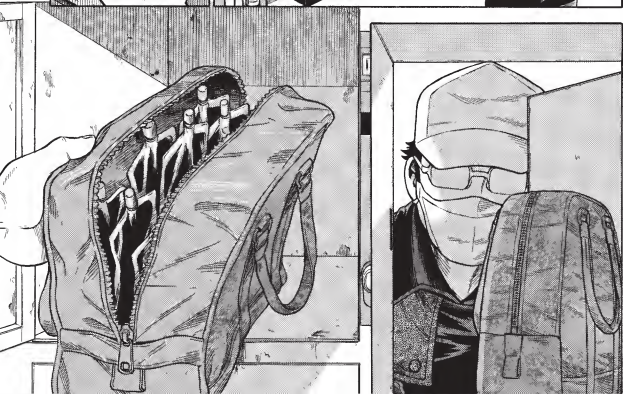
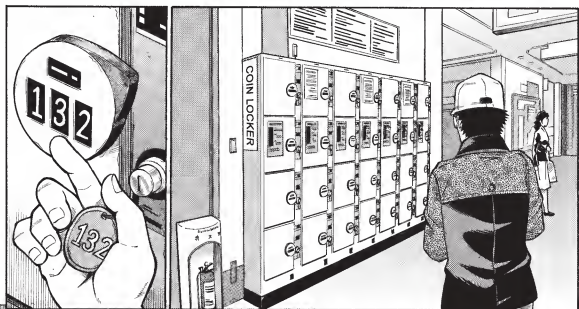
PACK
YOUR
THINGS.

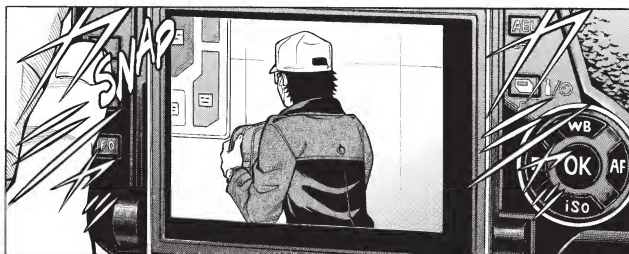


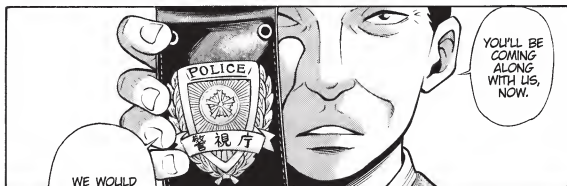
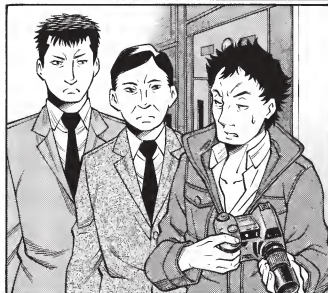
I...

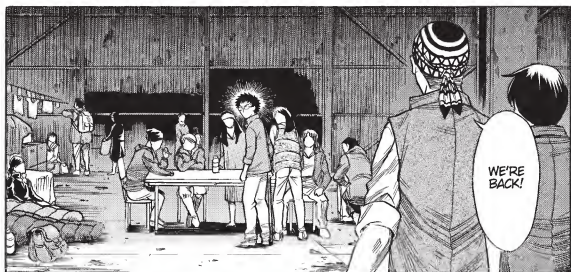
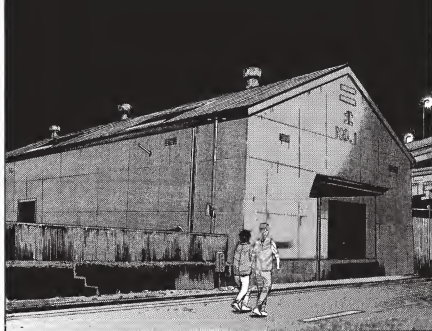
I
THINK
I'M IN
LO--

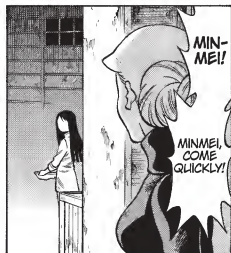
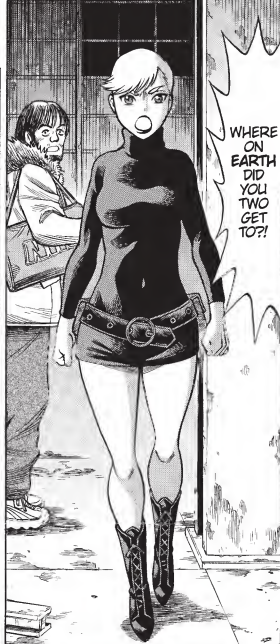
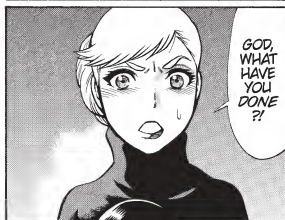


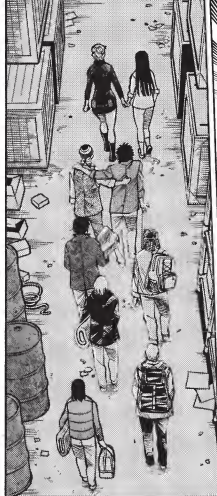












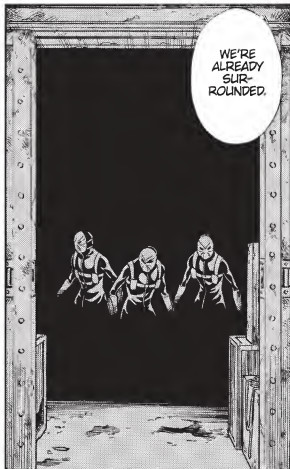
DO IT!!
OR
WOULD
YOU
RATHER
GET
DUSTED
?!

WHAT
?

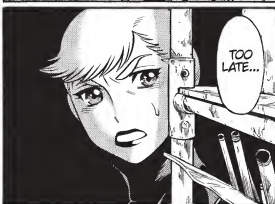
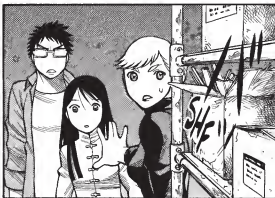
WE'RE
MOVING!

EVERYONE,
GET YOUR
THINGS!
QUICKLY!

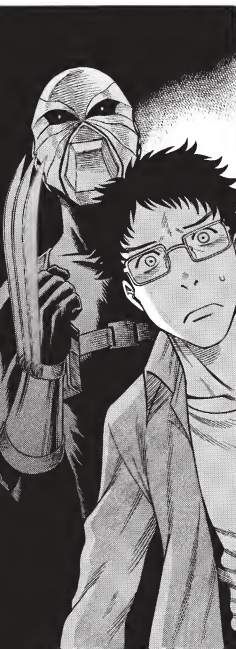
ALREADY?
BUT WE
JUST
MOVED
IN HERE,
THREE
DAYS
AGO.

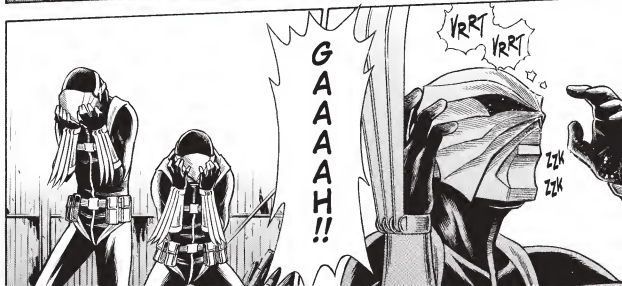


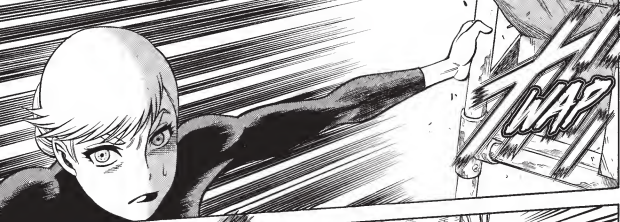
WE'RE
ALREADY
SUR-
ROUNDED.

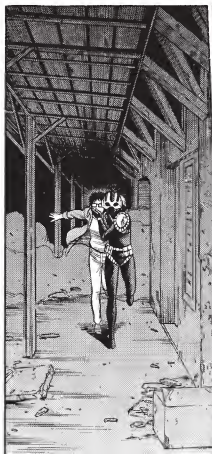
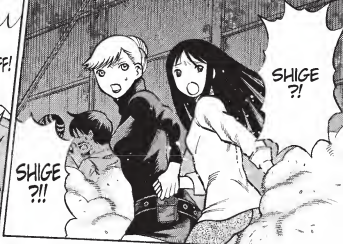


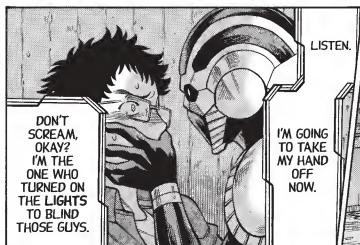
TOO
LATE...





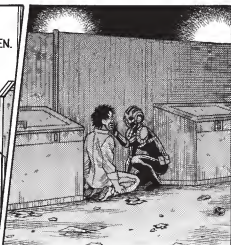




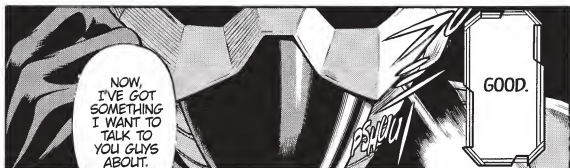


LISTEN.

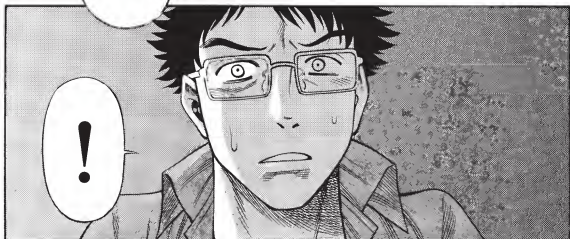
I'M GOING TO TAKE MY HAND OFF NOW.

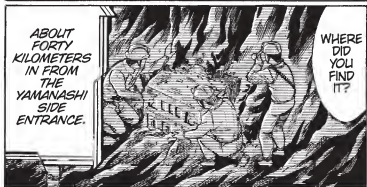
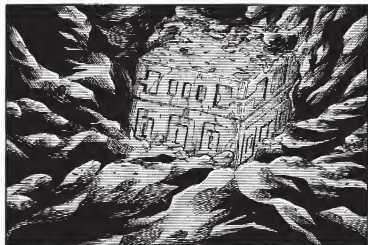
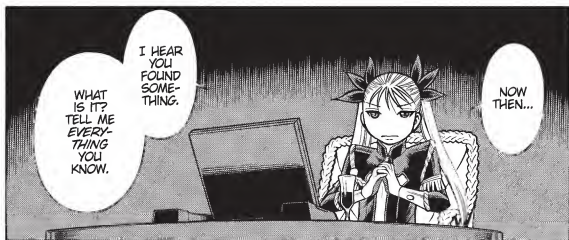


I KNOW WHAT I'M WEARING MAKES ME LOOK LIKE ONE OF THEM, BUT I'M NOT.



GOOD.



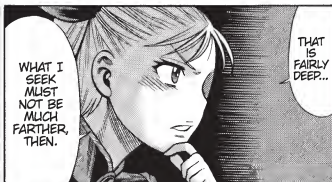




THIS IS
A VERY
TRYING,
VERY
DANGER-
OUS
SEARCH.

PLEASE,
CAN
WE AT
LEAST
HAVE A
SHORT
BREAK
--?

LANDSLIDES
AND
CAVE-INS
HAVE
ALREADY
CLAIMED
MANY OF
OUR COM-
PANIONS' LIVES!



WHAT I
SEEK
MUST
NOT BE
MUCH
FARTHER,
THEN.

THAT
IS
FAIRLY
DEEP...



MY
LADY!
PLEASE
!!

CONTINUE
YOUR
SEARCH. LEAVE NO
PASSAGE
UNEXPLORED,
NO MATTER
HOW TINY.

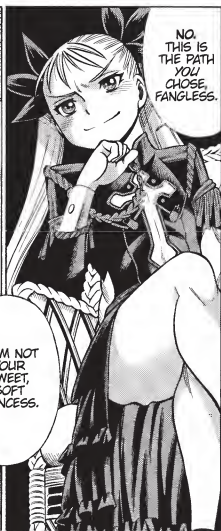


HA
HA
HA
...

AHA
HA
HA
HA!!



I
SHOW
NO
MERCY
TO
THOSE
WHO
DARE
DEFEY
ME.



NO.
THIS IS
THE PATH
YOU
CHOSE,
FANGLESS.

I AM NOT
YOUR
SWEET,
SOFT
PRINCESS.

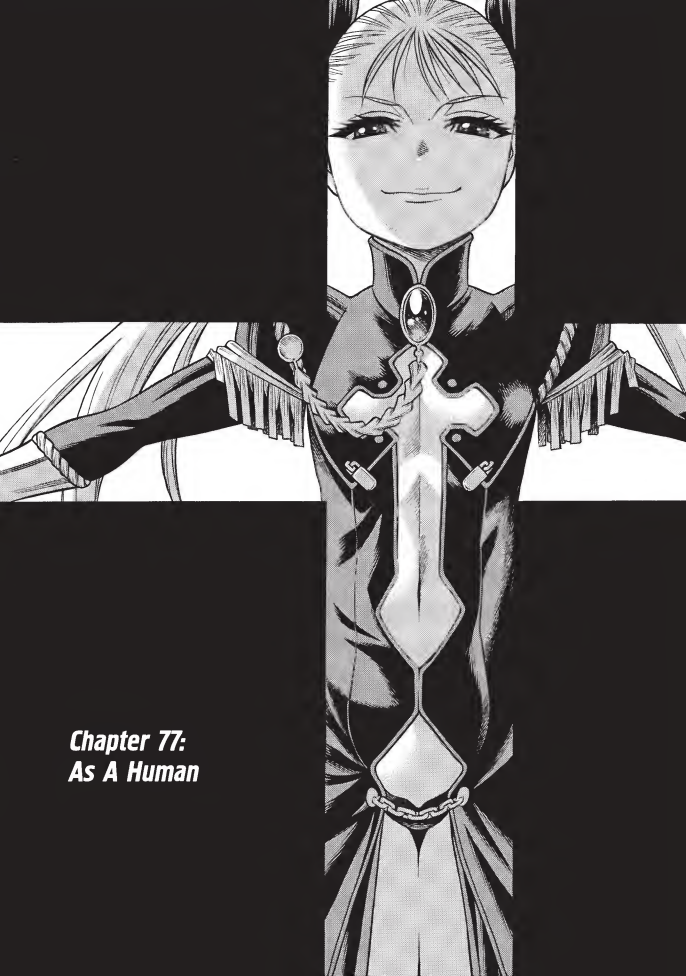


WELL THEN,
WE SHALL
MAKE IT A
PROMISE.



DO NOT
WANDER
OFF DOWN
THE ROAD
OF LIFE
WITHOUT
ME,
AGREED?



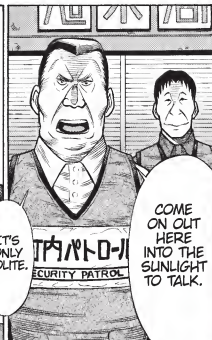
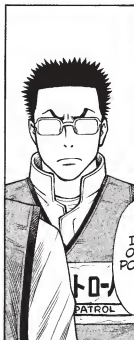
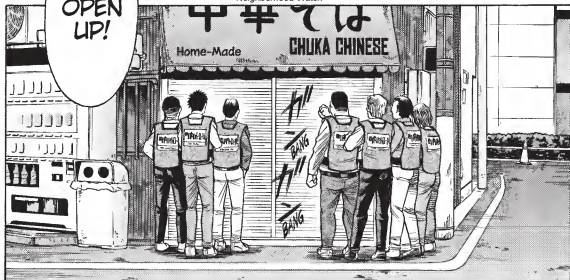


***Chapter 77:
As A Human***



OPEN UP!

Neighborhood Watch







WHAT
IN HELL
ARE YOU
GOING
ON
ABOUT?!

GOOD HUMANS
WOULD KEEP
THEIR SHOP
OPEN, EVEN
THOUGH THERE
AREN'T ANY
CUSTOMERS, AS
A SHOW OF
FAITH TO RAISE
EVERYONE'S
SPIRITS!

WE HAVE
TO SHOW
THOSE
BLOOD-
SUCKERS WE
WON'T BE
INTIMIDATED!
HOW CAN
YOU NOT
GET THAT?!



"DISASTER HAS
FALLEN UPON
OUR FAIR CITY,
AND IT IS
THE DUTY OF
ALL CITIZENS
TO BAND
TOGETHER AND
FACE IT."

"THERE WILL
BE THOSE WHO
OPPOSE THIS.
THESE SELFISH
PEOPLE SEEK
ONLY PERSONAL
GAIN, AND
WHATEVER
BEFALLS THEM
IS THEIR OWN
FAULT."



I DON'T
HAVE A CLUE
WHAT THAT
PUFFED-UP
IDOT
NISHIHARA
SAID...

BUT YOU'D HAVE
TO BE A MORON
TO BELIEVE THAT
KIND OF FEAR-
MONGERING
FROM A WORLD
WAR II MILITARY
YOUTH BRAT!

BESIDES,
I'VE
NEVER
VOTED
FOR HIM.
NOT EVEN
ONCE!

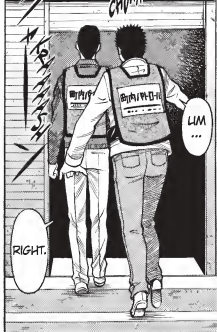


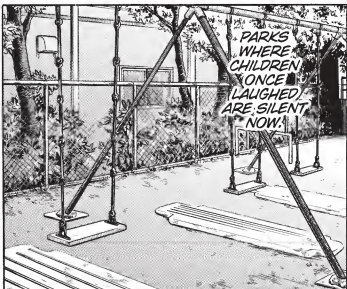
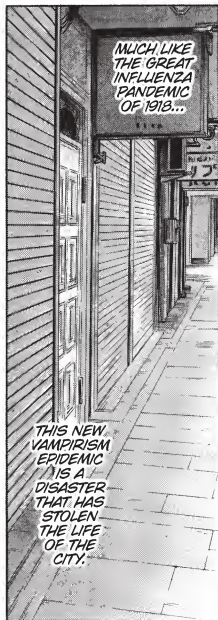
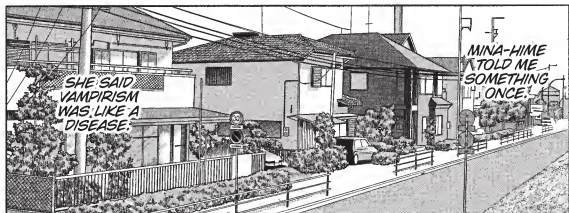
SUSPI-
CIOUS.

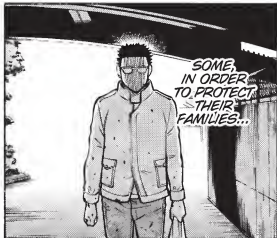


DO YOU
HAVE ANY
IDEA HOW
MUCH IT
COSTS
TO MAKE
RAMEN THAT
NOBODY'S
GOING TO
BUY?

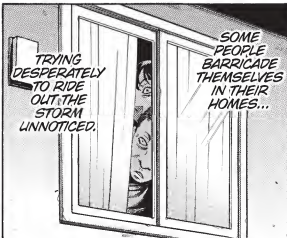
EVEN
BOILING
A POT OF
WATER
ISN'T
FREE!







SOME
IN ORDER
TO PROTECT
THEIR
FAMILIES...



TRYING
DESPERATELY
TO RIDE
OUT THE
STORM
UNNOTICED.

SOME
PEOPLE
BARRICADE
THEMSELVES
IN THEIR
HOMES...

#vampire Search Results Tweets / Top

kazuhiro (Yamada Kazuhiro)
[PUBLIC] Lorenzo Pharmaceuticals is owned by the Topes family! They make the artificial blood called "Sigma". Hospital patients who received a transfusion of this artificial blood became vampires! Ask your hospital to stop using Lorenzo Pharmaceuticals products today!
#vampire 10 sec. ago

boom boom
[PUBLIC] Lorenzo Pharmaceuticals is owned by the Topes family! They make the artificial blood called "Sigma". Hospital patients who received a transfusion of this artificial blood became vampires! Ask your hospital to stop using Lorenzo Pharmaceuticals products today!
#vampire 20 sec. ago

tsuten (Tamitani)
[PUBLIC] Lorenzo Pharmaceuticals is owned by the Topes family! They make the artificial blood called "Sigma". Hospital patients who received a transfusion of this artificial blood became vampires! Ask your hospital to stop using Lorenzo Pharmaceuticals products today!
#vampire 1 min. ago

Borbon (Young Master)
1st hand source RT@Rumpelstiltschen -A hospital patient who received a Sigma blood transfusion turned into a vampire!
#vampire 1 min. ago

CHIKUTAKU (Watchmaker)
[PUBLIC] Be careful! Vampires have a gel that will protect them from sunlight. Because you see someone outside in the sun doesn't mean they aren't a vampire!
#vampire 2 min. ago

Rumpelstiltschen (Little Dwarf)
[PUBLIC] Lorenzo Pharmaceuticals is owned by the Topes family! They make the artificial blood called "Sigma". Hospital patients who received a transfusion of this artificial blood became vampires! Ask your hospital to stop using Lorenzo Pharmaceuticals products today!
#vampire 3 min. ago

Rumpelstiltschen (LJ)
[PUBLIC] RUMOR, HEARSAY, AND STRAIGHT-UP FALSE INFORMATION ARE SPREADING EVERYWHERE, PUSHED ON BY PEOPLE'S DISTRUST OF THE GOVERNMENT.

Neutered Ate
[PUBLIC] RUMOR, HEARSAY, AND STRAIGHT-UP FALSE INFORMATION ARE SPREADING EVERYWHERE, PUSHED ON BY PEOPLE'S DISTRUST OF THE GOVERNMENT.

Borbon (Young Master)
1st hand source RT@Rumpelstiltschen -A hospital patient who received a Sigma blood transfusion turned into a vampire!
#vampire 15 min. ago

CHIKUTAKU (Watchmaker)
[PUBLIC] Be careful! Vampires have a gel that will protect them from sunlight. Because you see someone outside in the sun doesn't mean they aren't a vampire!
#vampire 15 min. ago



AN INVISIBLE
THREAT HAS
STRUCK
FEAR INTO
EVERYONE...

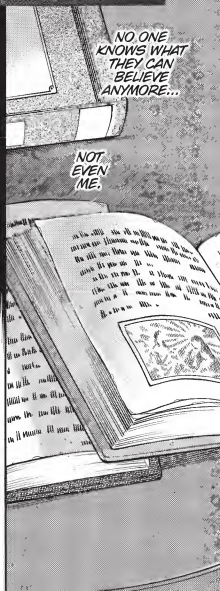
TAKE
MORE
DESPERATE
ACTIONS.

SPREADING
TERROR
MORE
VIRULENT
THAN ANY
PLAGUE!



Rumpelstiltschen (Little Dwarf)
 TEL: 04 Lorenzo Pharma Canada - France by the Texas family. They
 animal blood called "Serna" for patients who receive a transfu-
 this animal blood became the first vampire
 Rumpelstiltschen (Little Dwarf)
 The report on Sigma announced by the Ministry of Health
 gathered by pro-human organs
**THE PEOPLE
ARE LEFT
LIKE LEAVES
IN THE WIND,
FLUTTERING
BACK AND
FORTH, TRYING
TO FIND
SOMETHING
ANYTHING THEY
CAN TRUST IN.**
 According to an insider,
 Recent research from a French scientist proves that certain kinds
 of vampires are resistant to the effects of UV light. The vampires
 attacking here are that special type! I'm sure of it!
 Just be walking around in daylight doesn't mean
 they're! We have to accept that there is no safe
**FACTS AND
COMMON SENSE
ARE PASSED
OVER FOR
GROUNDLESS,
UNPROVEN
FABRICATIONS.**

This is all true! I saw it with my own eyes!!



**NO ONE
KNOWS WHAT
THEY CAN
BELIEVE
ANYMORE...**

**NOT
EVEN
ME.**





THEY ARE A
HINT ABOUT
WHY SHE
CAME HERE,
AND SHE WAS
TALINTING ME
WITH THEM.

THOSE
WORDS
HAVE BEEN
SEARED
INTO MY
MIND.



FWIP
.....

TWTCH

SHE'S
DARING
ME TO
FIGURE
IT OUT,
IF I CAN.



UM,
WOULDN'T IT
BE QUICKER
JUST TO
LOOK THIS
ALL UP
ON THE
INTERNET?



THIS LAPTOP
USES THE BUND'S
GOVERNMENTAL
SERVERS AND
INTERNET
CONNECTIONS.
EVERY SINGLE
COMMUNICATION
COMING INTO OR
GOING OUT OF
THAT SERVER IS
MONITORED.

BUT
SHE
FOUND
IT.

AT THE START
OF ALL THIS,
I TRIED TO
SEND AN EMAIL
TO AKIRA,
WARNING HIM
ABOUT FAKE
MINA...

DON'T
BO-
THER.



I
CAN'T
DO
THAT.

YES,
HE WAS
ALWAYS A
SHARP
PERSON...



HER
HIGHNESS
MERELY
DID WHAT
SHE
MUST AS
RULER.

IN-
DEED.

"THAT'S
IMPOS-
SIBLE."

AND HE
NEVER
SPARED
AKIRA-KUN--
OR EVEN
HIME-SAMA--
THE ACERBIC
SIDE OF HIS
TONGUE.



SHOULD
I BE
HAPPY?
OR
SHALL
I BE
SAD?

IN THE END,
EVERYTHING
HE DID WAS
ALWAYS
FOR HIME-
SAMA'S
SAKE.

I THOUGHT
HIS DEVOTION
TO HER,
THOUGH HE
HID IT WELL,
WAS ROCK-
SOLID.

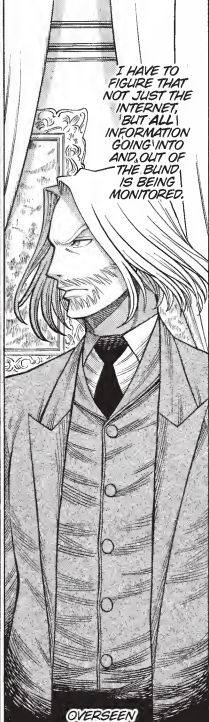
I CAN
HARDLY
BELIEVE
IT...

EVEN
NOW.



HOW
COULD HE
BETRAY
HIME-SAMA?

I HAVE TO
FIGURE THAT
NOT JUST THE
INTERNET,
BUT ALL
INFORMATION
GOING INTO
AND OUT OF
THE BLIND
IS BEING
MONITORED.



OVERSEEN
BY THE
BLIND'S OWN
INTELLIGENCE
DIVISION AND
ITS LEADER,
DUKE
BORGIANI.

OUR CALCULATIONS, BASED UPON THE DISTRIBUTION OF THESE ARTIFACTS, ARE SHOWING THAT THE TARGET AREA MAY BE MUCH LARGER THAN ORIGINALLY SPECULATED.

THROUGH RADIOMETRIC DATING ON THE UNEARTHED ARTIFACTS, WE ALSO HAVE A SOLID ESTIMATE ON THE LIKELY DATE OF THEIR CREATION.

SINCE THAT DISCOVERY, SEVERAL MORE ARTIFACTS HAVE BEEN FOUND.

OUR CALCULATIONS, BASED UPON THE DISTRIBUTION OF THESE ARTIFACTS, ARE SHOWING THAT THE TARGET AREA MAY BE MUCH LARGER THAN ORIGINALLY SPECULATED.

THROUGH RADIOMETRIC DATING ON THE UNEARTHED ARTIFACTS, WE ALSO HAVE A SOLID ESTIMATE ON THE LIKELY DATE OF THEIR CREATION.

SINCE THAT DISCOVERY, SEVERAL MORE ARTIFACTS HAVE BEEN FOUND.

OUR CALCULATIONS, BASED UPON THE DISTRIBUTION OF THESE ARTIFACTS, ARE SHOWING THAT THE TARGET AREA MAY BE MUCH LARGER THAN ORIGINALLY SPECULATED.

THROUGH RADIOMETRIC DATING ON THE UNEARTHED ARTIFACTS, WE ALSO HAVE A SOLID ESTIMATE ON THE LIKELY DATE OF THEIR CREATION.

SINCE THAT DISCOVERY, SEVERAL MORE ARTIFACTS HAVE BEEN FOUND.

YOU HAVE AN IDEA OF WHERE THAT IS, YES?

I DON'T CARE ABOUT THAT FRINGE DETRITUS! I WANT WHAT THEY GUARD AT THEIR CENTER.

YOU HAVE AN IDEA OF WHERE THAT IS, YES?

I DON'T CARE ABOUT THAT FRINGE DETRITUS! I WANT WHAT THEY GUARD AT THEIR CENTER.

THE PEOPLE OF THIS COUNTRY,

HMPH. WHAT FOOLS THEY ARE...

THE PEOPLE OF THIS COUNTRY,

HMPH. WHAT FOOLS THEY ARE...

DO NOT FORGET THOSE WORDS. I WILL HOLD YOU TO THEM.

ERM... WE BELIEVE WE WILL HAVE GOOD NEWS ON THAT FRONT IN A DAY OR TWO.

DO NOT FORGET THOSE WORDS. I WILL HOLD YOU TO THEM.

ERM... WE BELIEVE WE WILL HAVE GOOD NEWS ON THAT FRONT IN A DAY OR TWO.

YES.

ALL ARE NEARLY IDENTICAL TO THOSE FOUND IN SOUTH AMERICA, CORRECT?

YES.

ALL ARE NEARLY IDENTICAL TO THOSE FOUND IN SOUTH AMERICA, CORRECT?

JUST A LITTLE PEEK INTO HIS MIND.

SOMETIMES, I WISH I COULD GET A PEEK...

JUST A LITTLE PEEK INTO HIS MIND.

SOMETIMES, I WISH I COULD GET A PEEK...

"LOST
HISTORY,"
EH?

THEIR
OWN
HISTORY
...

POISON
SPREADS
AT THEIR
FEET...

A LOST
PAST...

AND THEY
LOST IT
TO THE
MISTS OF
TIME.

AND ALL
THEY DO
IS HOP
ABOUT IN
FEAR, LIKE
SCARED
LITTLE
RABBITS.

THEY HAVE
NO IDEA WHAT
LIES SLEEPING
BENEATH
THEM, HIDDEN
THERE SINCE
ANTIQUITY.



OUR
PROBLEM IS
THIS.

HOW WILL
THE THREE
GREAT CLANS
VIEW THIS
WAR, AND
WHAT WILL
THEY DO?



I THINK
WE MAY
RULE OUT
LI IN THIS
PARTICULAR
INSTANCE.

THOUGH
WE
CANNOT
SAY HE
WON'T
DO SO,
EVENTU-
ALLY.

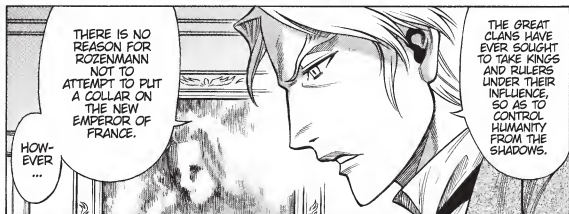
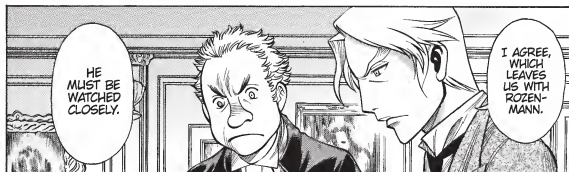
I EXPECT
IVANOVIC WILL
ALSO CONTENT
ITSELF WITH
WATCHING
FOR NOW.
NAPOLEON HAS
YET TO MAKE
ANY MOVES
TOWARDS
RUSSIA,
AFTER ALL.

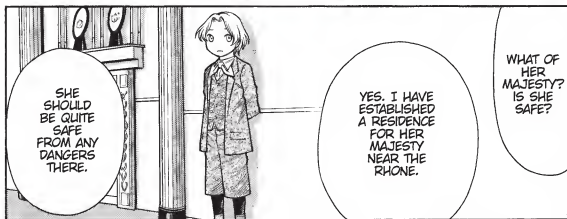
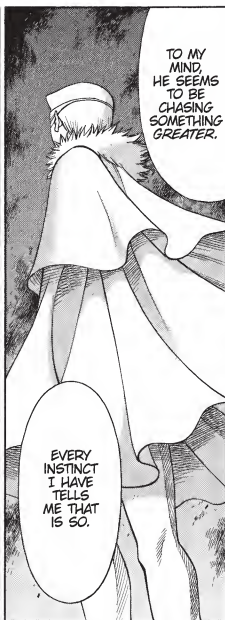


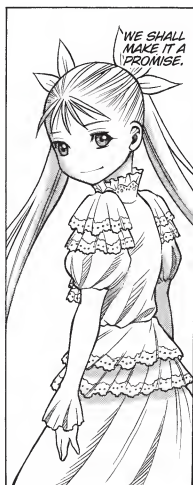
NAPOLEON IS
PRESENTLY
GATHERING A
LARGE ARMY ON
THE BOLOGNA
COAST, WITH
THE INTENT
TO SAIL FOR
ENGLAND.

IN RESPONSE,
ENGLAND HAS
JUST SEALED
A TREATY
OF MUTUAL
PROTECTION
WITH AUSTRIA
AND RUSSIA.
PRUSSIA
CURRENTLY
STANDS
NEUTRAL.

HOWEVER,
THERE IS NO
TELLING HOW
LONG THAT
WILL LAST.
NAPOLEON HAS
SUCCESSFULLY
SPLIT EUROPE
RIGHT DOWN
THE CENTER,
AFTER ALL.



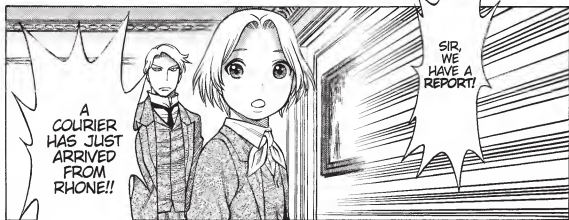




WE SHALL
MAKE IT A
PROMISE.

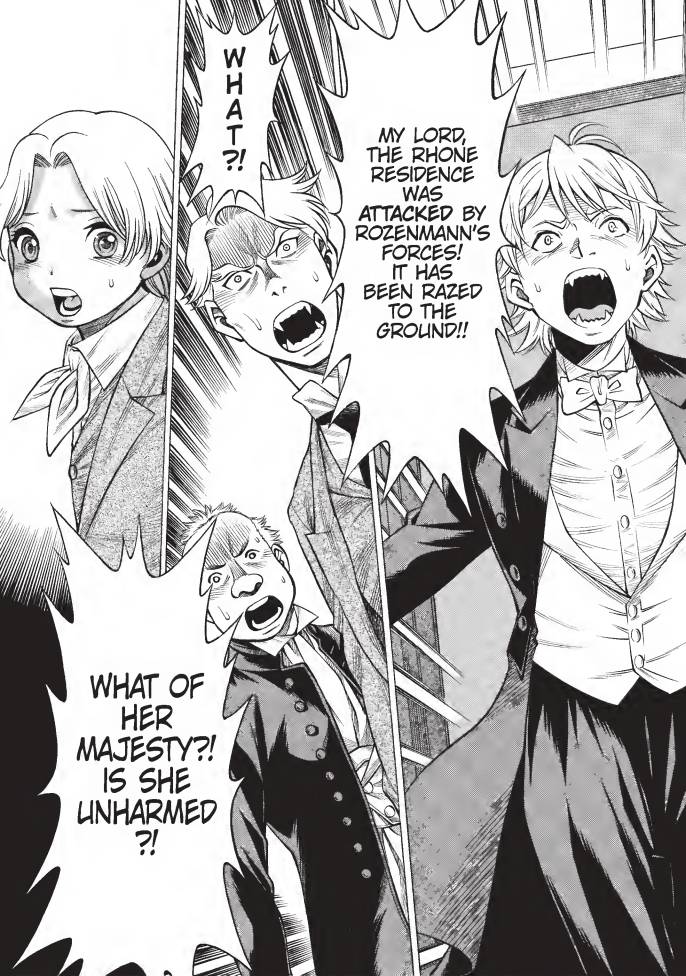


I WONDER
WHAT HER
MAJESTY
IS DOING
RIGHT NOW?



A
COURIER
HAS JUST
ARRIVED
FROM
RHONE!!

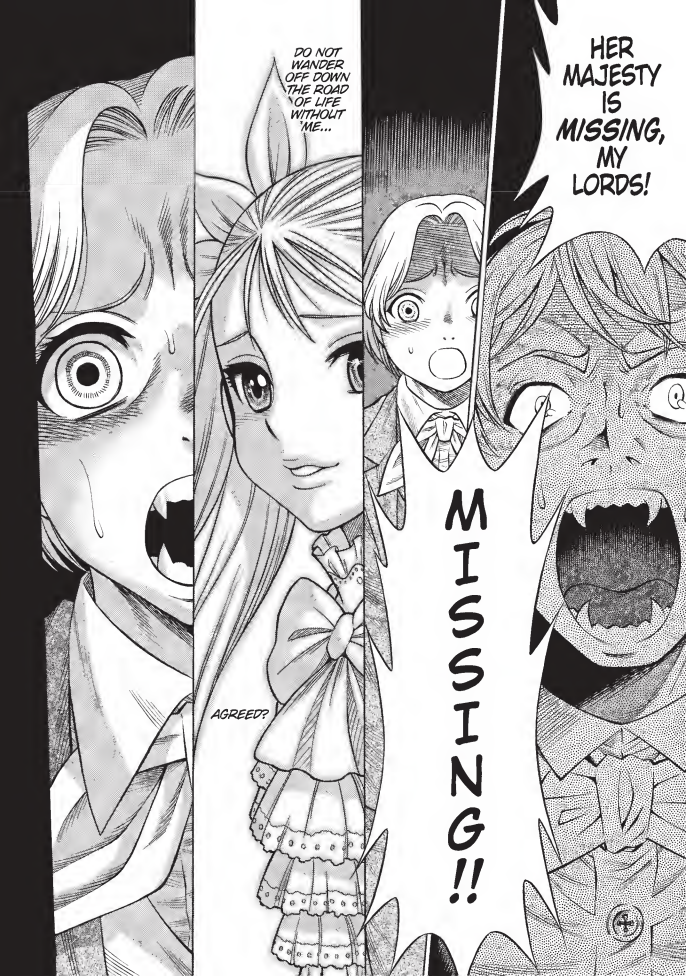
SIR,
WE
HAVE A
REPORT!

A black and white manga panel showing three young men in formal attire reacting in shock and panic. The man on the left has short, light-colored hair and a wide-eyed, open-mouthed expression. The man in the center has spiky, light-colored hair and a similar expression, with his mouth wide open. The man on the right has short, light-colored hair and a similar expression, with his mouth wide open. They are all wearing formal jackets and bow ties. The background is dark and indistinct.

WHAT?!

MY LORD,
THE RHONE
RESIDENCE
WAS
ATTACKED BY
ROZENMANN'S
FORCES!
IT HAS
BEEN RAZED
TO THE
GROUND!!

WHAT OF
HER
MAJESTY?!
IS SHE
UNHARMED
?!

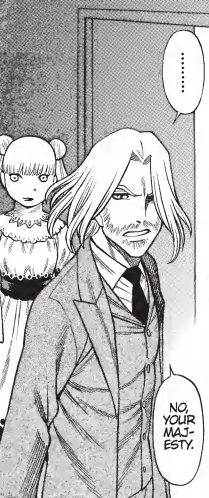


DO NOT
WANDER
OFF DOWN
THE ROAD
OF LIFE
WITHOUT
ME...

HER
MAJESTY
IS
MISSING,
MY
LORDS!

AGREED?

MISSING!!



.....

NO,
YOUR
MAJ-
ESTY.

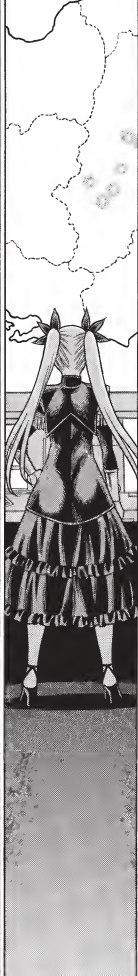


ALPHONSE,
ARE YOU
ALL
RIGHT?

I'M
FINE.



DID
YOU SAY
SOME-
THING?



MINA!!



A REPLY IS IMPOSSIBLE FOR THIS MAIL.

XK4591ihT98hg046

Fp / 0
00

IS IT A
PASSWORD
OF SOME
KIND?

AN ALPHA-
NUMERIC
STRING?
WHAT'S
THIS FOR?

MMMM

A REPLY IS IMPOSSIBLE FOR THIS MAIL

XK459111 3hg046



TEPES ROYAL FAMILY

TOP SECRET FILE

Unauthorized Access is Prohibited

ENTER

DID I JUST GET
THE ACCESS KEY
TO THE BLIND
SERVER'S
TOP SECRET
DATABASE?!

WHAT
THE
HECK...?

TEPES ROYAL FAMI! BUT...
WHY?

WHO SENT
THIS TO ME,
'AND WHY
NOW?!

TOP SECRET FILE

Unauthorized Access is Prohibited

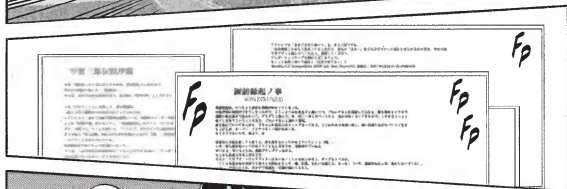
IT COULD
BE A
TRAP...

ENTER

[Access? Y/N]

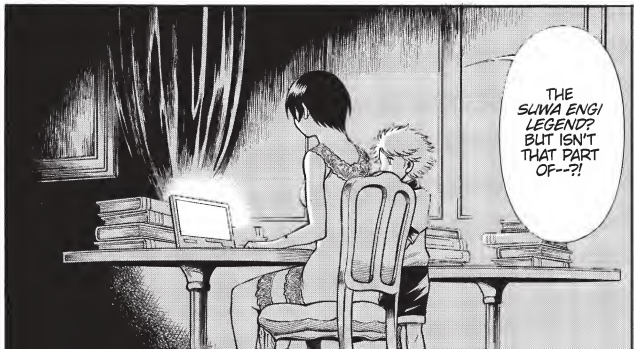
IT'S NOT
LIKE I
HAVE
ANYTHING
LEFT TO
LOSE.

OH,
WHO
CARES!



事ノ起縁訪諏

SUWA ENGI LEGEND





WELL,
YOU
CERTAINLY
SEEM
TO BE
TAKING
THIS
CALMLY!

OUR
INVESTIGATION
HAS A
LEAK?!

YOU'RE
KIDDING
ME!



I'LL GET
RIGHT
TO THE
POINT.

THIS
IS BIG,
AND I
NEED
YOUR
HELP
IMMEDIATELY.



WAIT...

I
KNOW
THIS
VOICE.



THIS
HAMA-
SAN?

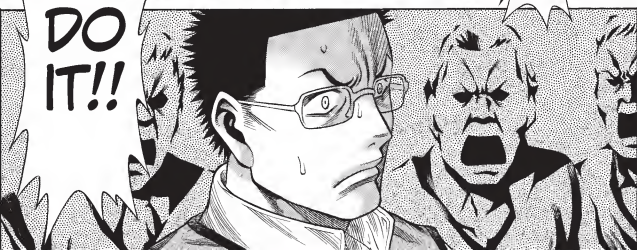
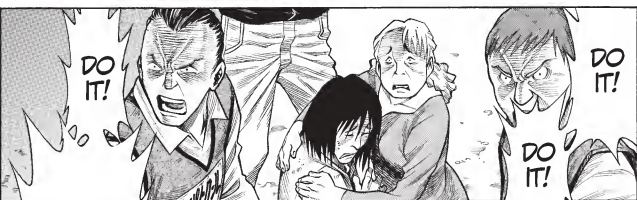


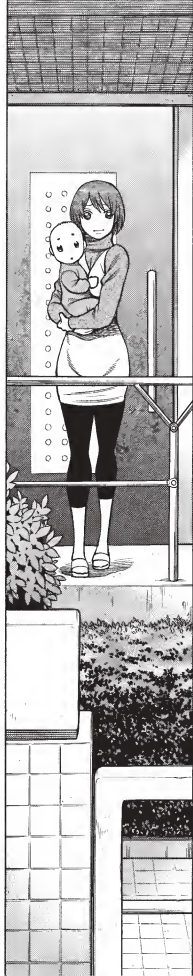
THERE'S
SOMEONE
I NEED
YOUR
BOSS TO
MEET.

Y'SEE...









YES,
I KNOW
EXACTLY
WHAT
I'M
DOING.





WE CAN'T
LET HIM
GET AWAY
WITH
THAT!!

THAT
DAMNED
WATANABE
BRAT
CHICKENED
OUT AT
THE LAST
MINUTE!



BUT WHAT
CAN WE DO
ABOUT IT?
I MEAN,
NOBODY'S
ACCUSED HIM
OF BEING A
VAMPIRE.



WHO
CARES
ABOUT THE
DAMN
RULES?!
LET'S
JUST PIN
SOMETHING
ON HIM
AND DRAG
HIS ASS
OUT!

SO
CLOSE...

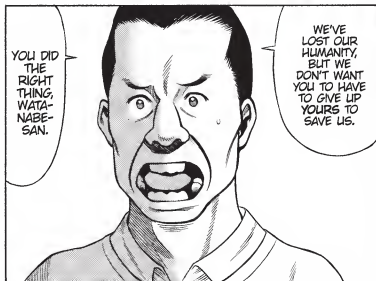
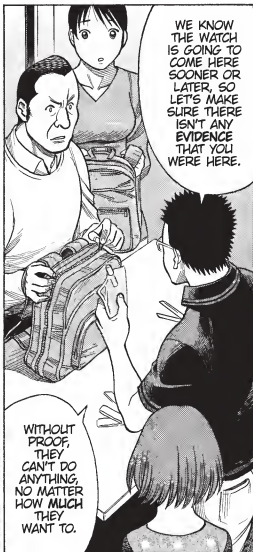
I WAS
SO CLOSE
TO DOING
SOMETHING
HORRIBLE!

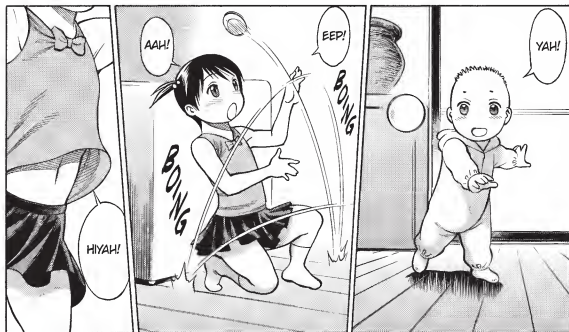
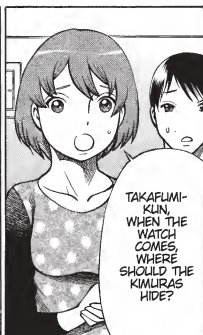


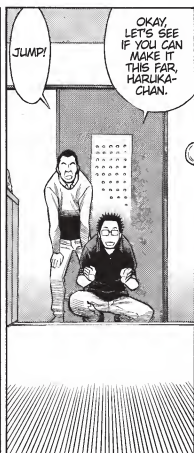
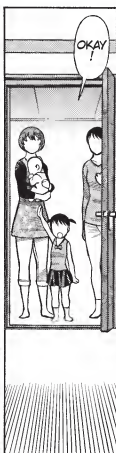


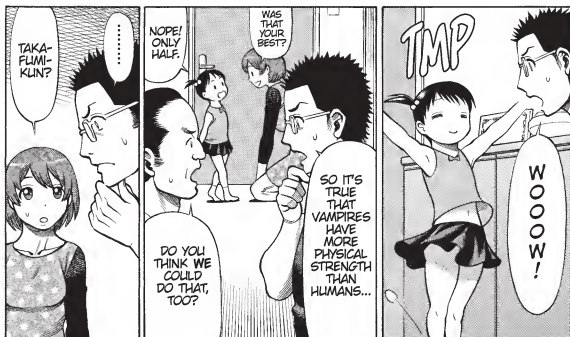
Chapter 78: Straw Dog

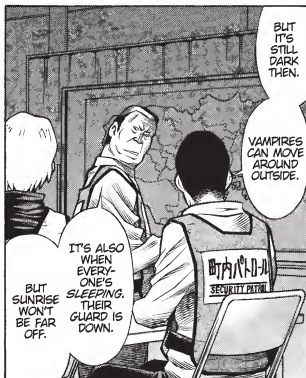












BUT
IT'S
STILL
DARK
THEN.

VAMPIRES
CAN MOVE
AROUND
OUTSIDE.

IT'S ALSO
WHEN
EVERY-
ONE'S
SLEEPING.
THEIR
GUARD IS
DOWN.

BUT
SUNRISE
WON'T
BE FAR
OFF.



THEY'RE
GOING TO
START
TOMORROW
MORNING,
RIGHT
BEFORE
DAWN.



WE
HAVE
THE
PROOF,
RIGHT
HERE.

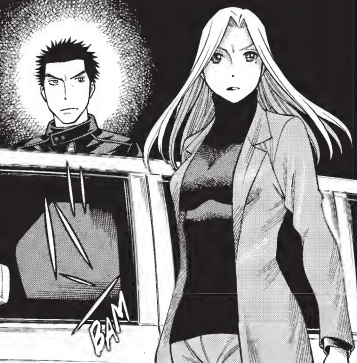


OH,
WE'RE
VERY
SURE.



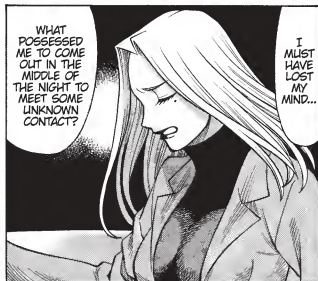
TAKEDA,
ARE YOU
CERTAIN
?

YOU HAVE
NO DOUBTS
THAT
WATANABE'S
A SUP-
PORTER?



HOW
COULD YOU
PICK A
PLACE LIKE
THIS FOR
OUR REN-
DEZVOUS?

THERE'S
NOTHING
HERE...



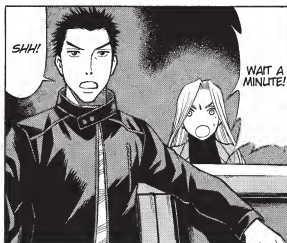
WHAT
POSSESSED
ME TO COME
OUT IN THE
MIDDLE OF
THE NIGHT TO
MEET SOME
UNKNOWN
CONTACT?

I
MUST
HAVE
LOST
MY MIND...



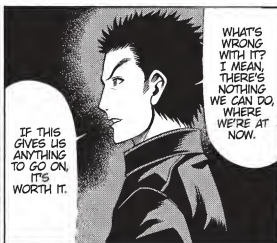
CAN'T
PULL
ANY
HIDDEN
FUNNY
BUSI-
NESS.

OPEN
PLACES
ARE THE
BEST
SPOTS
FOR THIS
KIND OF
THING.



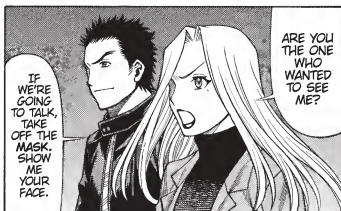
SHH!

WAIT A MINUTE!



WHAT'S WRONG WITH IT? I MEAN, THERE'S NOTHING WE CAN DO, WHERE WE'RE AT NOW.

IF THIS GIVES US ANYTHING TO GO ON, IT'S WORTH IT.



IF WE'RE GOING TO TALK, TAKE OFF THE MASK. SHOW ME YOUR FACE.

ARE YOU THE ONE WHO WANTED TO SEE ME?

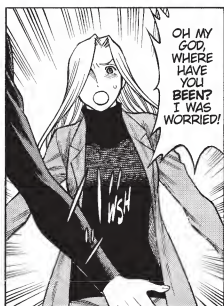
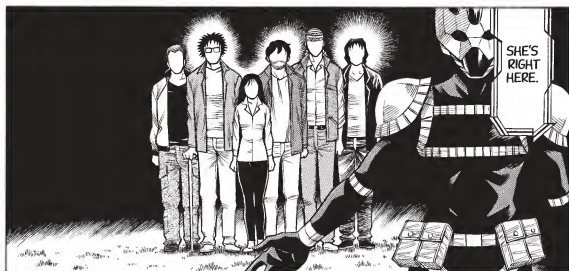
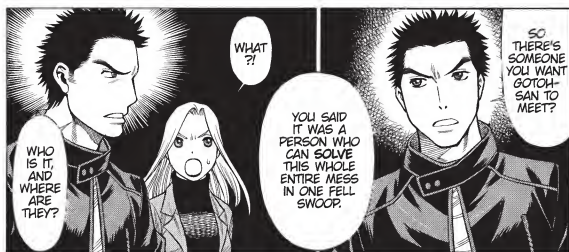


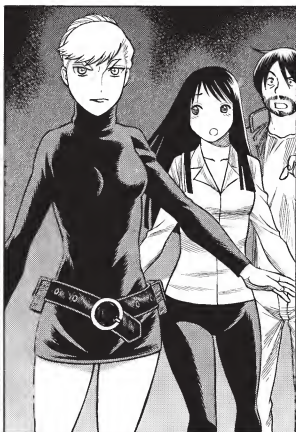
SORRY. THE ONE WHO SENT ME DOESN'T WANT TO REVEAL HIMSELF JUST YET.

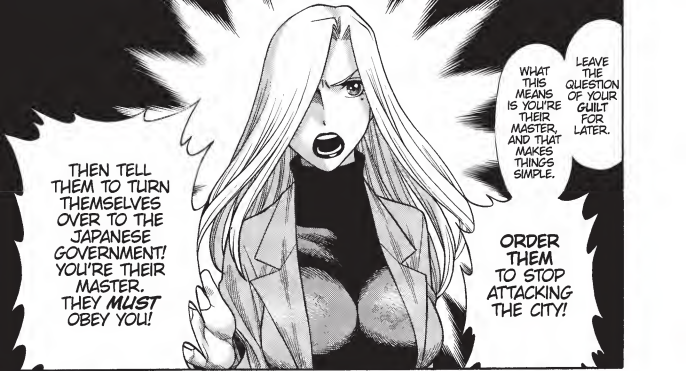
I'M AFRAID I'M GOING TO LEAVE THIS ON.



LOOKS LIKE THEY'RE HERE.







THEN TELL
THEM TO TURN
THEMSELVES
OVER TO THE
JAPANESE
GOVERNMENT!
YOU'RE THEIR
MASTER.
THEY **MUST**
OBEY YOU!

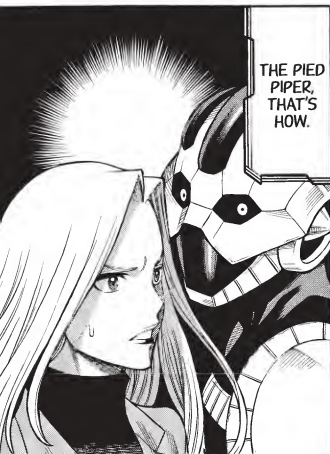
WHAT
THIS
MEANS
IS YOU'RE
THEIR
MASTER,
AND THAT
MAKES
THINGS
SIMPLE.

LEAVE
THE
QUESTION
OF YOUR
GUILT
FOR
LATER.

ORDER
THEM
TO STOP
ATTACKING
THE CITY!



MINMEI-
CHAN!



THE PIED
PIPER,
THAT'S
HOW.



SHE
CAN'T.

WHAT?!
HOW IS
THAT
POSSIBLE
?

NONE OF
THEM
LISTENED.

IT DOESN'T
WORK. WE ALL
TRIED TELLING
THEM TO STOP,
DOZENS OF
TIMES.

MINMEI WAS
ONE OF THE
INFECTED
REFUGEES
BROUGHT TO
THE MAINLAND,
SO THEY COULD
BE EXAMINED.

DON'T
TELL ME
YOU'VE
FORGOT-
TEN.

ON
AND
ON IT
GOES...

AND WHEN
THAT PERSON
BITES
SOMEONE,
IT'S TRANS-
FERRED
AGAIN.

ANYONE SHE
BITES WOULD
GET NOT JUST
THE VAMPIRISM
VIRUS FROM HER,
BUT THE PIED
PIPER TOO.

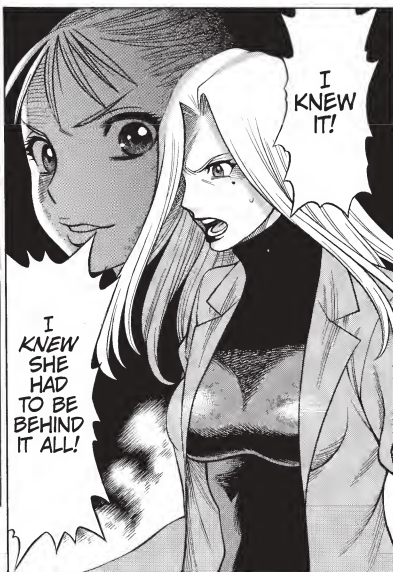
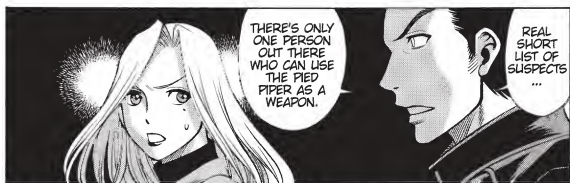
ARE YOU
SAVING THAT
EVERY SINGLE
VAMPIRE IN
TOKYO RIGHT
NOW IS
INFECTED WITH
THE PIED
PIPER?!

SOMEONE
MANIPU-
LATED
THEM INTO
ATTACKING
THE CITY?!

THEN...

OH
MY
GOD
!

THEN
THAT
MEANS
....





SEE, THE PIED
PIPER WAS
DESIGNED TO BE
REPROGRAMMABLE,
EVEN AT A
DISTANCE,
TO MAKE IT
ADJUSTABLE TO
THE DEMANDS OF
THE MISSION.

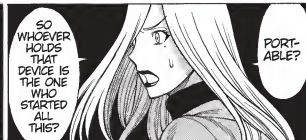
THE ACTUAL
REPROGRAMMING
TAKES A PRETTY
LARGE SETUP,
BUT THE DEVICE
THAT CAN
TRANSMIT AND
TRIGGER THOSE
CHANGES IS
PORTABLE.



IT'S A
TOP
SECRET
FILE
FROM THE
PIED
PIPER'S
DEVELOP-
MENT.



EXACT-
LY.



SO
WHOEVER
HOLDS
THAT
DEVICE IS
THE ONE
WHO
STARTED
ALL
THIS?

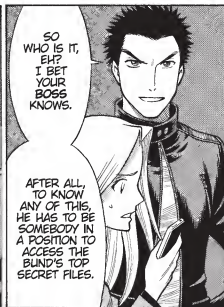
PORT-
ABLE?



BUT
WE
DO
KNOW
...

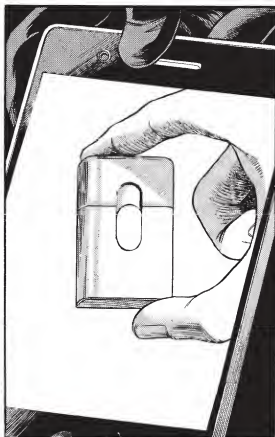
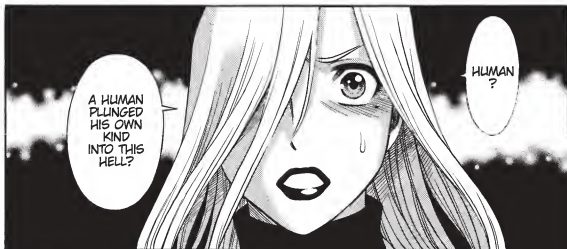
MY BOSS HAS
NO IDEA,
UNFORTUNATELY.
ALL WE KNOW
IS THAT THE
DEVICE WAS
PASSED INTO
THE HANDS OF
ANOTHER.

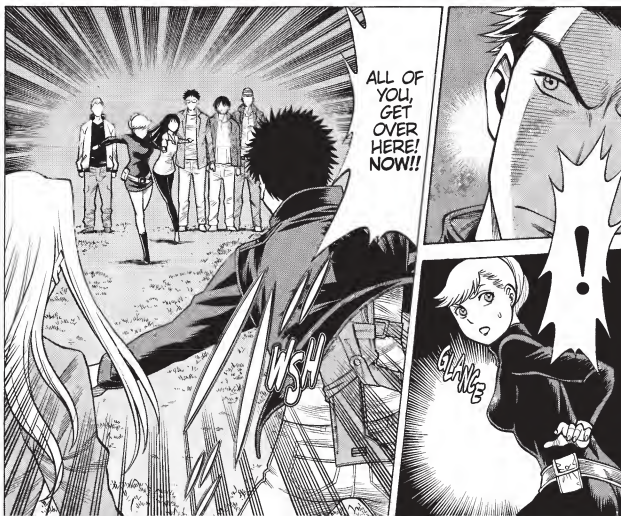
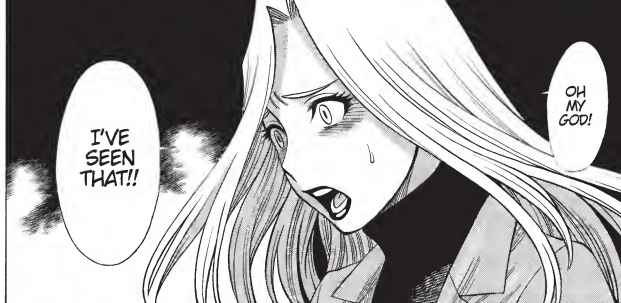
WE DON'T
KNOW
WHO THAT
SOMEBODY
IS.

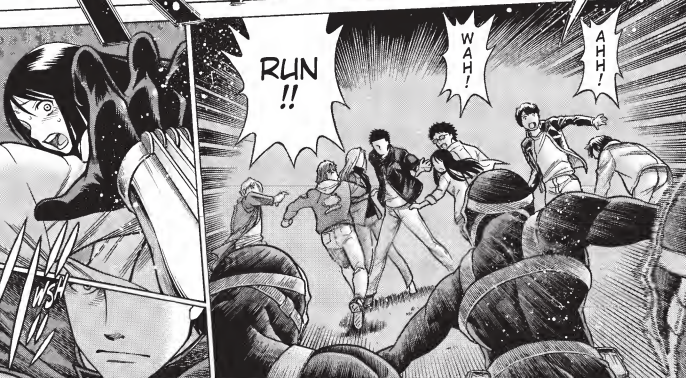


SO
WHO IS IT,
EH?
I BET
YOUR
BOSS
KNOWS.

AFTER
ALL,
TO KNOW
ANY OF THIS,
HE HAS TO BE
SOMEBODY IN
A POSITION TO
ACCESS THE
BLIND'S TOP
SECRET FILES.









I MADE SURE
NO ONE
FOLLOWED
US HERE!!

WHAT
THE HELL...?
HOW DID
THEY FIND
US?!

THAT'S
WHY I'VE
BEEN
AGAINST
THIS
FROM
THE
START!

LESS
TALK,
MORE
RUNNING
!!

GET THE
GIRL AND
GOTOH-SAN
INTO
THE CAR,
AND GO!!

THE
JAPANESE
GOVERN-
MENT ISN'T
CAPABLE OF
PROTECTING
HER!



COUN-
CILOR
RYULU?!



WHO
IS
HE?

THAT
GUY'S
SECOND-
IN-
COMMAND
TO LI
HIMSELF!

DAMN,
WE SURE
GOT THE
ATTENTION
OF A BIG
FISH!

MISSY
...



JUST
WHO
THE
HELL
ARE
YOU?!



请您回到
故国去。

<I ASK YOU
TO RETURN
TO YOUR
COUNTRY.>

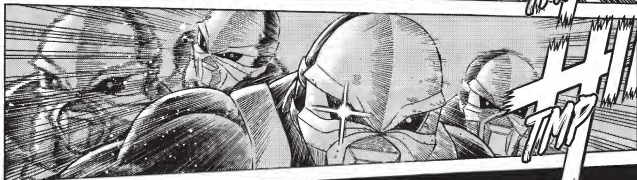
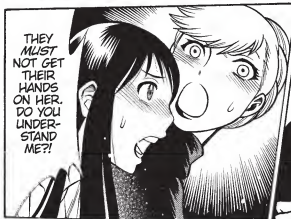
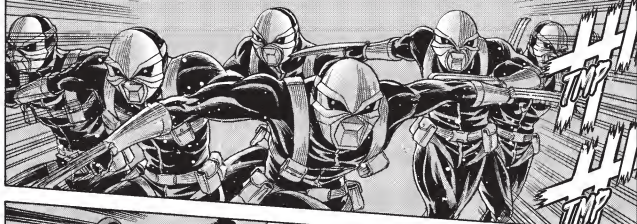


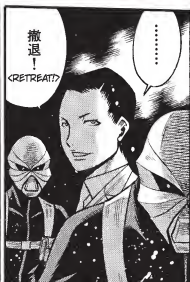
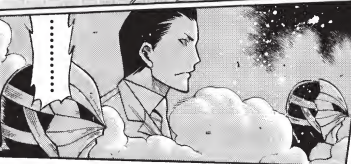
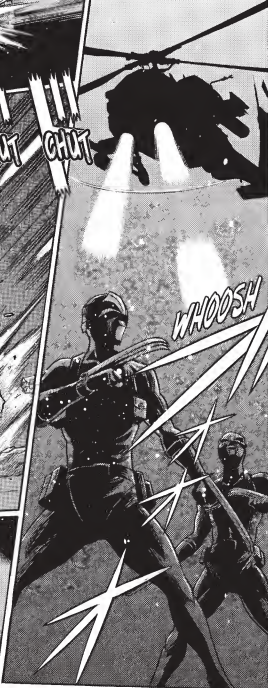
公主殿下
YOUR
HIGH-
NESS.>

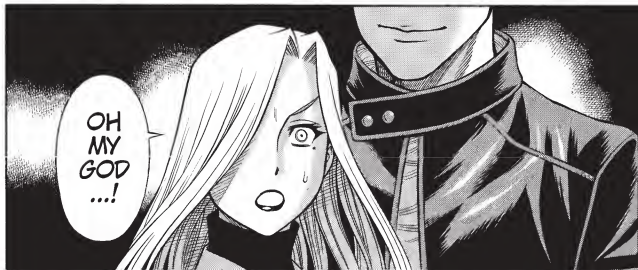
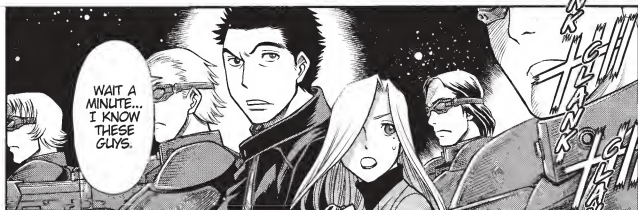


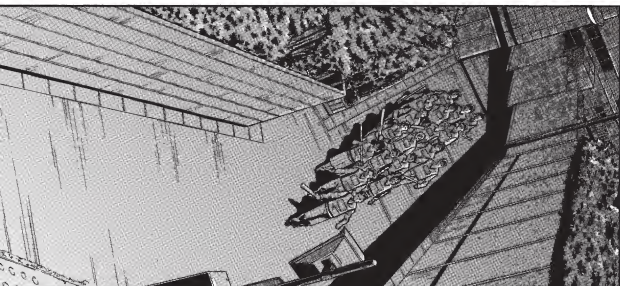
您的兄长
在等候您。

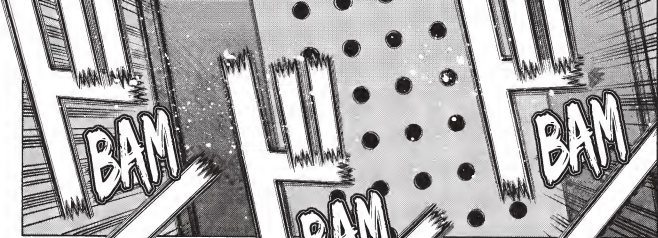
<YOUR
BROTHER IS
AWAITING
YOUR
ARRIVAL.>











KIMURA-SAN,
TAKE YOUR
WIFE AND
DAUGHTER,
AND HEAD
UP TO THE
ROOF
FROM THE
VERANDA.

I'LL
BUY
YOU AS
MUCH
TIME AS
I CAN!

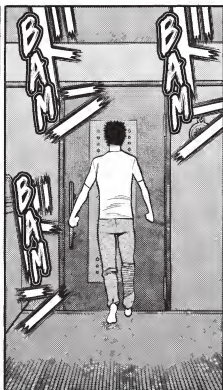
CALM
DOWN,
CHIEMI.



WHAT?!!
DO YOU
GUYS
HAVE
ANY IDEA
WHAT
TIME
IT IS?!



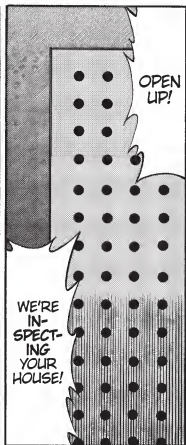
WHEW



LIKE
THAT
CRAP
MATTERS
AT A
TIME
LIKE
THIS!
OPEN
UP, OR
ELSE!!

HELL
NO!
WHAT
RIGHT
DO YOU
HAVE TO
INSPECT
ANY-
THING?!

WHA
?!

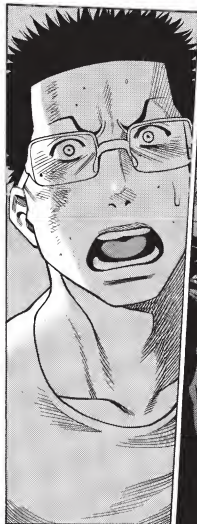


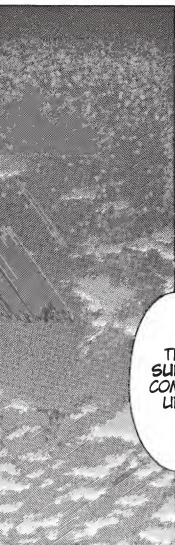
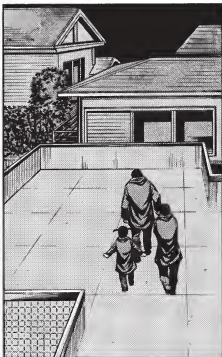
OPEN
UP!

WE'RE
IN-
SPECT-
ING
YOUR
HOUSE!











TRUE.

BUT WHO
CARES
ABOUT
PROOF?

W-
WAIT!
WHOA!

HOLD
ON!!

YOU
LOVED
FLAUNT-
ING ALL
YOUR
NEW
WEALTH,
DIDN'T
YOU?

THAT
WATCH
...



IT'S A
FRANCK
MULLER
DOUBLE
FACE,
ISN'T IT?

THAT
ISN'T
ME!

WE
DON'T.

THIS
PHOTO
PROVES
NOTHING
!!

WELL,
NOW IT
LOOKS
LIKE
THAT'S
COME
BACK
TO BITE
YOU.

THAT'S
WHY I
WARNED
YOU TO BE
A LITTLE
MORE...
GENEROUS
WITH IT.

JUST
LIKE
THE ONE
YOU
HAVE.



BAM

OPEN
UP, YOU
VAMPIRE
SLUT!!

TAKA-
FUMI-
KUN?!

BAM

OPEN
UP, OR
WE'LL
BREAK
IT
DOWN!!

TAKA-
FUMI-
KUN!!

AAAHH

Gy AAAH





Chapter 79: At Tel Meggido

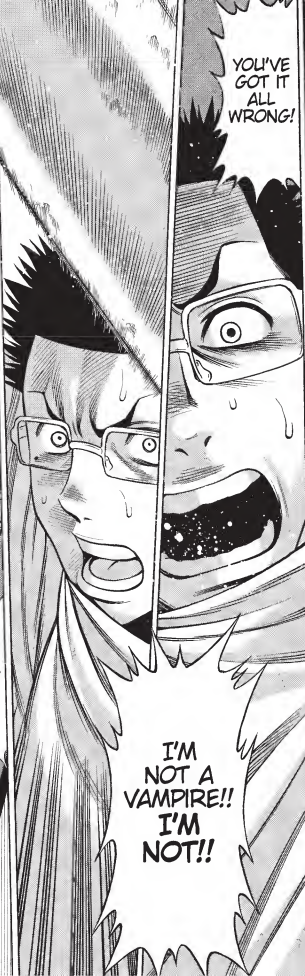
DO YOU
THINK
WE CAN
GET IN
THROUGH
THE
WINDOW?



NO,
DAM-
MIT!

THE
STORM
DOORS
ARE
FREAKING
METAL
SHUTTERS!
WE'D NEED
A DAMN
BLOW
TORCH!!

YOU'VE
GOT IT
ALL
WRONG!



I'M
NOT A
VAMPIRE!!
I'M
NOT!!

STAKE
'IM!!

STAKE
THE
VAMPIRE
BASTARD
!!

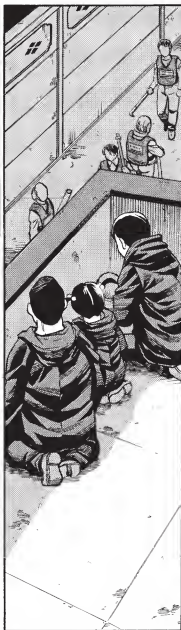
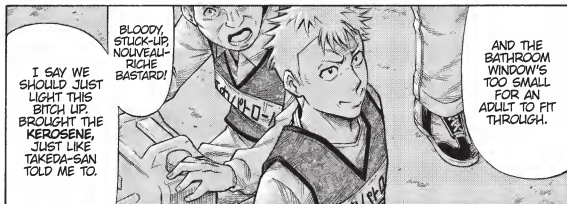


KILL
HIM
!!



W
A
I
T
!

ROT IN
HELL,
YOU
FILTHY
BLOOD-
SUCKER
!!



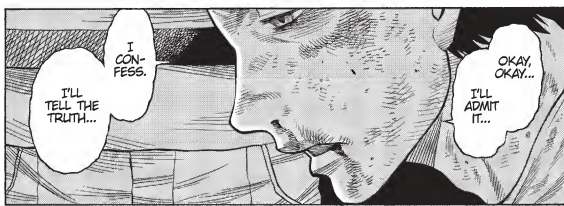


HURRY
UP AND
LEAVE!!



HURRY
UP!

DAMN
IT...



I'LL
TELL THE
TRUTH...

I
CON-
FESS.

I'LL
ADMIT
IT...

OKAY,
OKAY...



THEY DID
NOT BITE US.
NONE OF MY
FAMILY WAS
TURNED INTO
VAMPIRES.

BUT THEY'RE
GONE NOW.
THEY LEFT
AGES AGO.



YES,
WE DID
SHELTER
VAMPIRES.

THEY
HAD BEEN
OUR
NEXT
DOOR
NEIGH-
BORS.



WAIT A
MINUTE!
I TOLD
YOU
THAT WE
WEREN'T
BITTEN!!



THIS
TRAITOR
JUST
ADMITTED
THAT
THEY'RE
ALL
VAMPIRES!



HEY!
HAVEN'T
YOU
GOT
THAT
OPEN
YET?!

HURRY
UP AND
DRAG
THAT
WOMAN
OUT
HERE!



THERE'S
SOME
NEW
CREAM
STUFF
THAT
MAKES
IT
SO YOU
DON'T
DIE FROM
THE SUN,
EVER!

OH,
BUT
WE'VE
FOUND
OUT
YOUR
SECRET!

THAT'S
JUST AN
INTERNET
RUMOR!
DON'T TELL
ME YOU
BELIEVE
THAT
CRAP!!



DO YOU
SEE ANY
BITE
MARKS
HERE?!

LOOK!

I WENT ON
PATROL IN
BROAD
DAYLIGHT
WITH YOU,
HOW MANY
TIMES?!
NO VAMPIRE
COULD DO
THAT!!



YOU
WERE IN
THE SAME
ROOM AS
A VAMPIRE!
THERE IS
NO WAY
YOU
WEREN'T
BITTEN!!



YOU
BAS-
TARD
!!

YOU
LAY
ONE
HAND
ON
RYO-
TARO,
AND
I'LL
KILL
YOU!!

KRACK



YOU AND
YOUR
WHORE,
AND
YOUR
BRAT!!

WE'LL FIND
OUT ONE
WAY OR
ANOTHER,
WHEN WE
STAKE YOU
THROUGH
THE
HEART!



WE'LL
LINE UP
ALL
THREE
OF YOU
ON THE
STREET,
NICE AND
PRETTY!







BECAUSE
YOU LAZY,
GOOD-
FOR-
NOTHING
LEECHES
CAN'T BE
BOtherED
TO DO IT!

WHAT
WE'RE
DOING?
WE ARE
KEEPING
THE
PEACE
IN OUR
TOWN.
THAT'S
WHAT!



YOU
PEOPLE
...

DO YOU
HAVE
ANY IDEA
WHAT
YOU'RE
DOING?!

GOOD
GOD!



THIS
IS A
LYNCH
MOB!

THIS ISN'T
PROTECT-
ING ANY
PEACE...



WE'RE
IN AN
EMER-
GENCY
SITUATION
HERE.

YOU STILL
DON'T
UNDER-
STAND,
DO YOU?



ALL OF
YOU,
DISPERSE
AT
ONCE!

BUT, YOU,
YOU STAY
RIGHT HERE.
YOU LOOK
LIKE YOU'RE
THE ONE IN
CHARGE OF
THIS MESS,
SO I'D LIKE
TO HAVE
A WORD
WITH YOU!



STAY
BACK
!!

!



"AND
WHATEVER
BEFALLS
THEM
IS THEIR
OWN
FAULT."

"THERE WILL
BE THOSE
WHO OPPOSE
THIS. THESE
SELFISH PEOPLE
SEEK ONLY
PERSONAL
GAIN..."



"DISASTER
HAS
FALLEN
UPON
OUR
FAIR
CITY."

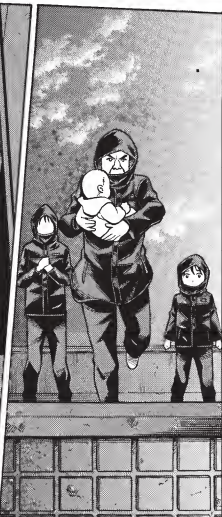
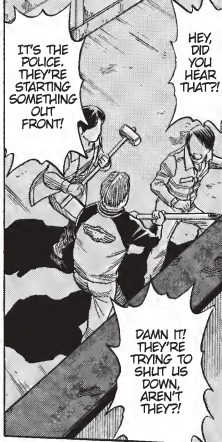
"IT IS
THE DUTY
OF ALL
CITIZENS
TO BAND
TOGETHER
AND
FACE IT."

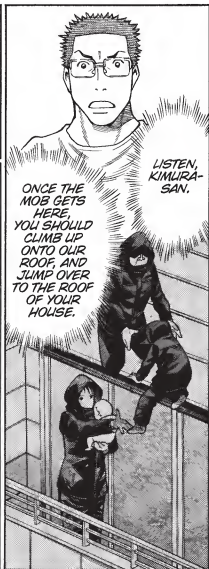
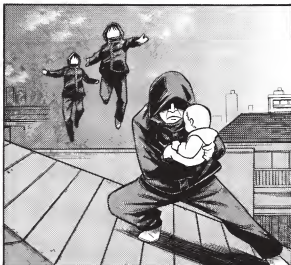


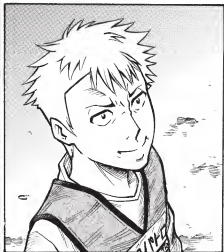
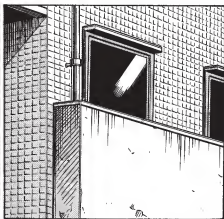
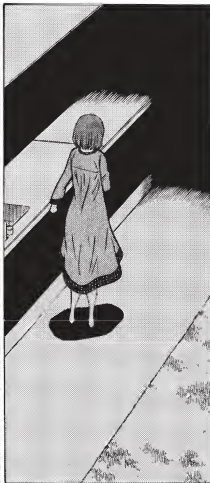
STAY
BACK
!!

THIS IS
YOUR
LAST
WARNING!











THAT'S
RIGHT!
THE PHONE!!



THE
PHONE
...?!



MY
FAMILY'S
IN TROUBLE!

GO TO
THE
POLICE!
PLEASE!!

PLEASE,
GET
HELP!



OH, THAT
DOESN'T
MATTER!
WHOEVER
YOU ARE,
PLEASE
HELP
US!

HELLO?
WHO IS
THIS?!



I OFFERED
IT TO YOU
FOR FREE,
YOU KNOW.



WHY
DIDN'T
YOU
TAKE THE
GARLIC?

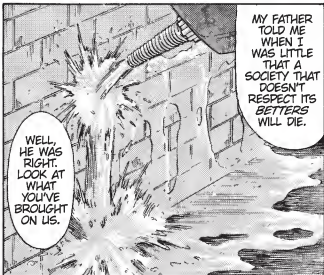
I
WARNED
YOU.
BUT DID
YOU
LISTEN?
NO.

YOU DIDN'T
PUT IT UP,
SO
VAMPIRES
GOT INTO
YOUR
HOME.



MY FATHER
TOLD ME
WHEN I
WAS LITTLE
THAT A
SOCIETY THAT
DOESN'T
RESPECT ITS
BETTERS
WILL DIE.

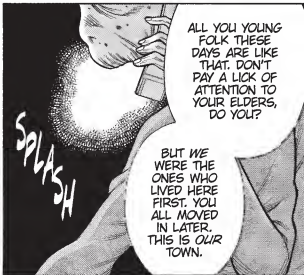
WELL,
HE WAS
RIGHT.
LOOK AT
WHAT
YOU'VE
BROUGHT
ON US.



ALL YOU YOUNG
FOLK THESE
DAYS ARE LIKE
THAT. DON'T
PAY A LICK OF
ATTENTION TO
YOUR ELDERS,
DO YOU?

BUT WE
WERE THE
ONES WHO
LIVED HERE
FIRST. YOU
ALL MOVED
IN LATER.
THIS IS OUR
TOWN.

SPLASH



WHAT
ARE
YOU
DOING
?!

NUMAI-SAN?
NUMAI-SAN,
IS THAT
YOU?

WHERE
ARE
YOU?

FSK





LOOK
AT YOU,
LIVING IN
SUCH A
NICE HOUSE
WHILE
YOU'RE
STILL SO
YOUNG...

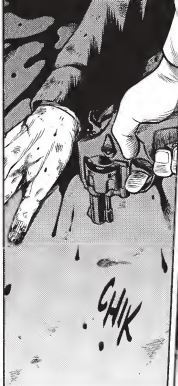
MY HUSBAND
AND I WORKED
FOR DECADES
BEFORE WE
COULD AFFORD
TO BUILD OUR
HOME.



OH MY
GOD...

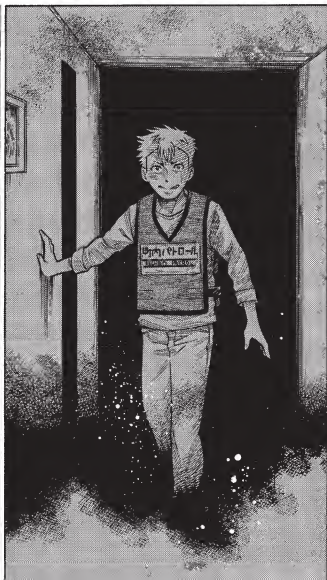


BEAUTIFUL.



YOU DIDN'T
EARN THIS
HOUSE...
MONEY FROM
THOSE FILTHY
VAMPIRES
BOUGHT IT.

NO SELF-
RESPECTING
HUMAN
SHOULD
LIVE IN
THAT KIND
OF HOME.





THE HOUSE
IS ON FIRE.
YOU NEED
TO HURRY
AND--

WHAT
ARE YOU
DOING?
YOU
SHOULD
GET OUT!



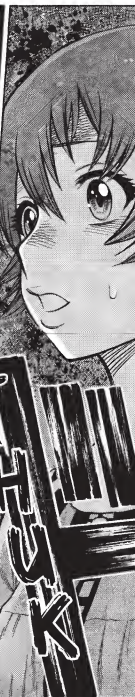
I
KNOW
YOU...

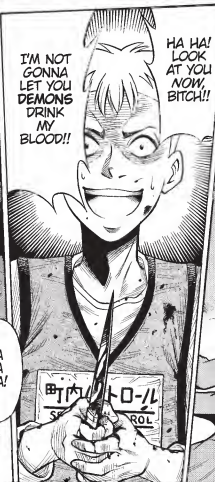
YOU'RE
YUYA-KUN,
RIGHT?
TSUCHIDA-
SAN'S SON.



VAMPIRE
BITCH!

DIE!







IT...

OH MY GOD ...

OH MY GOD !!

IT'S... OKAY...

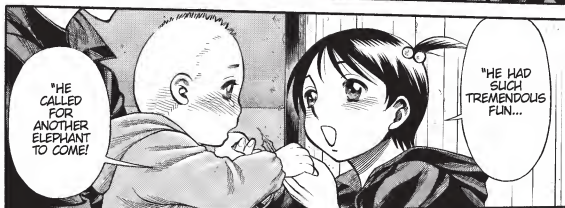
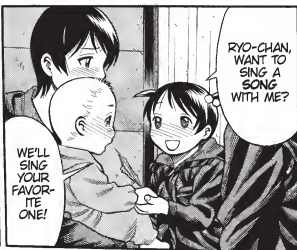
NNH ...

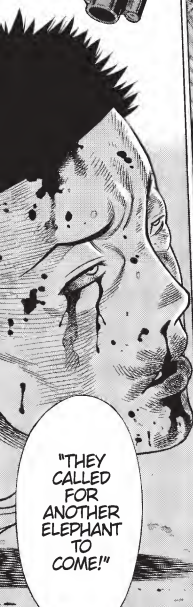
WHY AREN'T YOU TURNING INTO ASH?

WAIT ...

GRAAAAAAH







"THEY
HAD SUCH
TREMEN-
DOUS
FUN..."



"FOUR
ELEPHANTS
WENT OUT
TO PLAY..."



"UPON A
SPIDER'S
WEB ONE
DAY."

"THREE
ELE-
PHANTS
WENT
OUT TO
PLAY..."

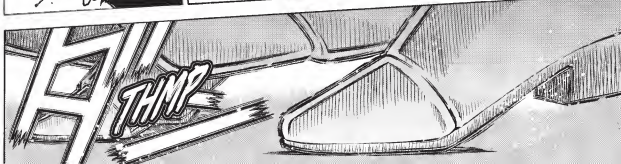
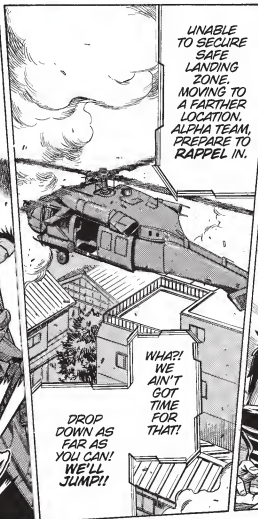


"THEY HAD
SUCH TRE-
MENDOUS
FUN..."

"THEY
CALLED
FOR
ANOTHER
ELEPHANT
TO COME!"

"UPON A
SPIDER'S
WEB ONE
DAY."

"THEY
CALLED
FOR
ANOTHER
ELEPHANT
TO COME!"



WHOOSH

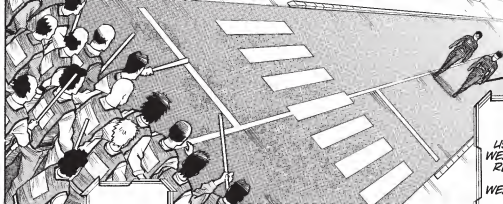


ROGER,
ALPHA
TEAM.
SECURE
LOCATION.



THIS IS
ALPHA
TEAM.
INSERTION
COMPLETE.





ALL
TEAMS,
THIS IS
A DIRECT
ORDER.

USE NO
WEAPONS.
REPEAT,
NO
WEAPONS.

THE
RIOTERS
ARE
NORMAL
HUMAN
CITIZENS.



GO
AHEAD
AND
MAKE IT
"EASY"
FOR US,
WHY
DON'TCHA
?

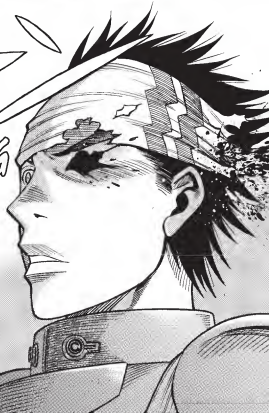
UGH.



LEROY!!



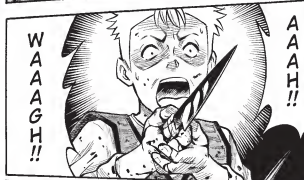
BANG

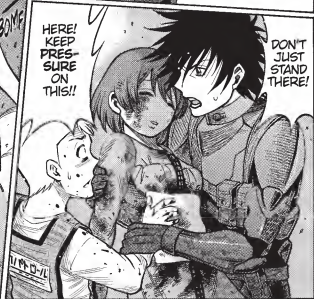
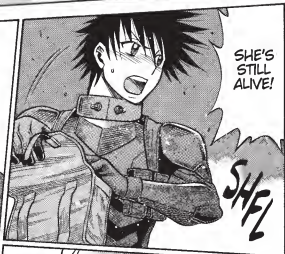
















I'LL LET
YOU OFF
WITH
JUST
THAT,
OLD
MAN.

DON'T
DO IT
AGAIN.



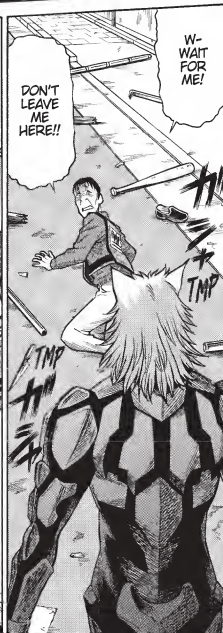
US?
"MON-
STERS"?
OH,
I THINK
NOT...

THERE
IS A FAR
NASTIER,
FAR
UGLIER
MONSTER
AROUND
HERE
THAN
US.



ST-
ST-
STAY
BACK!

STAY
AWAY
FROM
ME,
YOU
MON-
STER!



W-
WAIT
FOR
ME!

DON'T
LEAVE
ME
HERE!!



YOU'LL
FIND IT
THERE.

GO
HOME
AND
LOOK
IN A
MIRROR.



THIS IS
ALPHA
TEAM.
MISSION
COM-
PLETE.

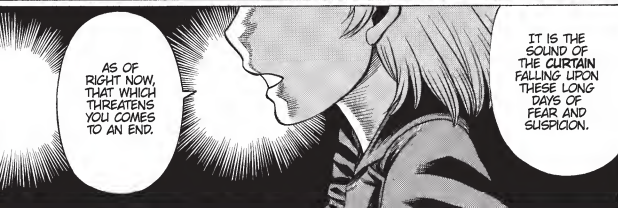
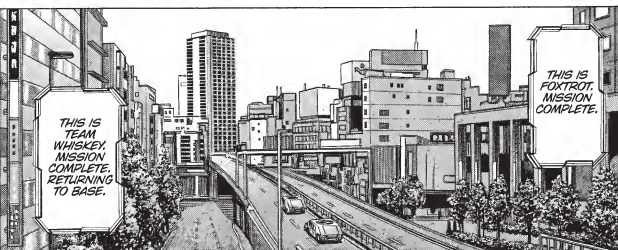


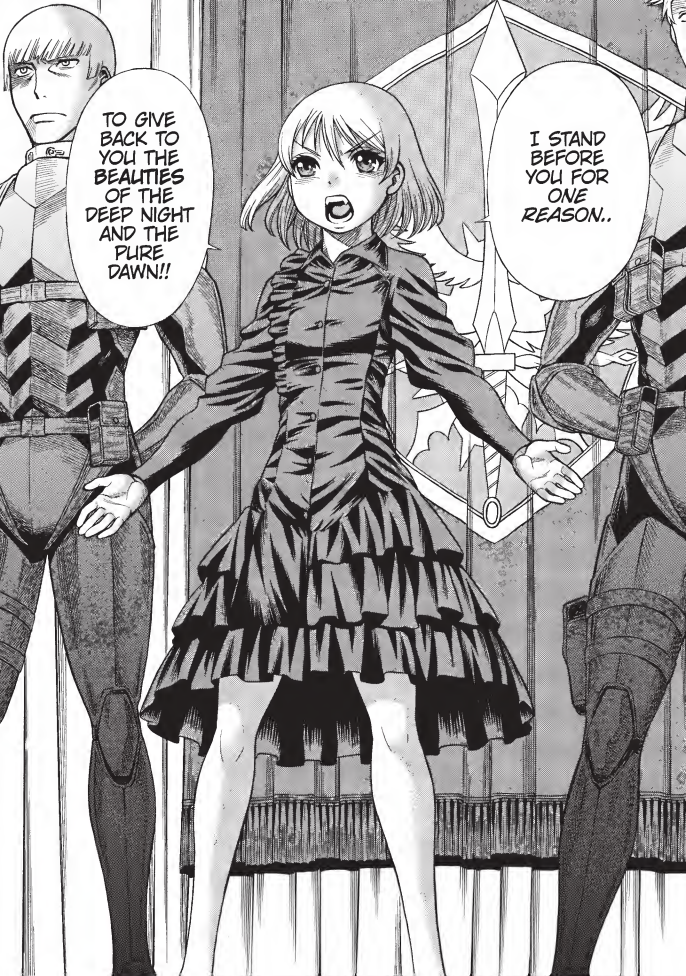
BOTH
TARGET
FAMILIES
HAVE
BEEN
RECOV-
ERED.



ONE
MEMBER
IS
SEVERELY
INJURED.
REQUEST-
ING EMER-
GENCY
MEDICAL
AID.

FWOOSH





TO GIVE
BACK TO
YOU THE
BEAUTIES
OF THE
DEEP NIGHT
AND THE
PURE
DAWN!!

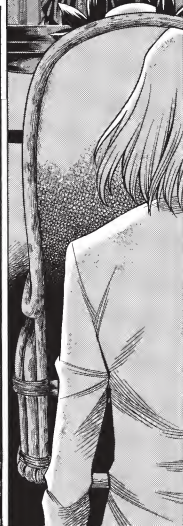
I STAND
BEFORE
YOU FOR
ONE
REASON..

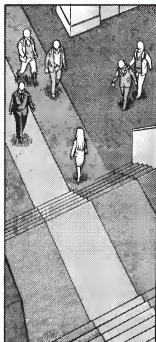
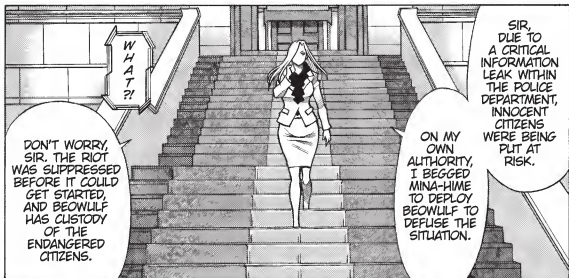
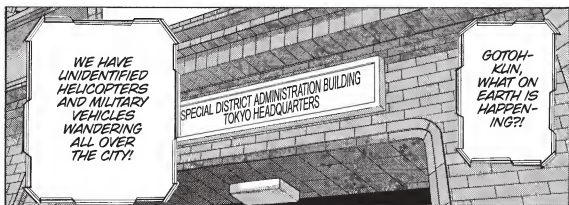


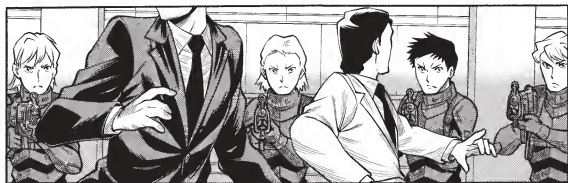
CITIZENS
OF THE
VAMPIRE
BLIND...



YOUR
QUEEN
HAS
RETURNED
!!





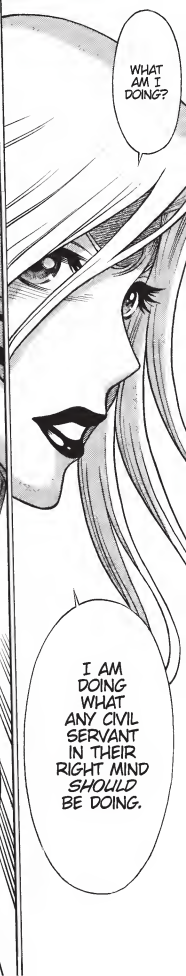


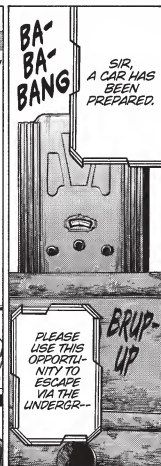
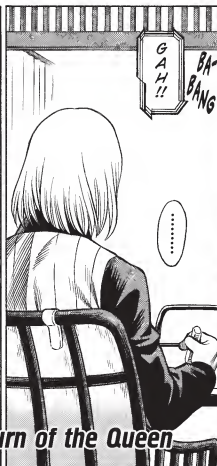
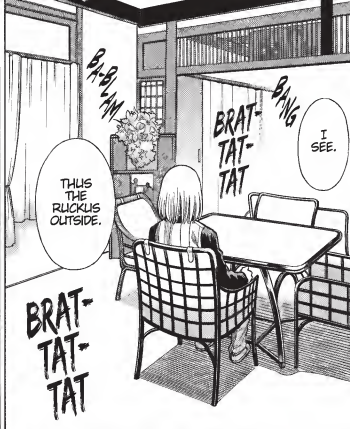
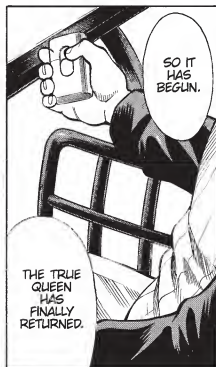


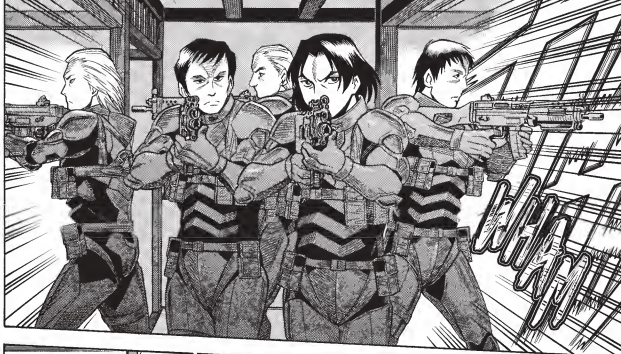
WHAT
AM I
DOING?

**SAVING
THIS
COUNTRY
!!**

I AM
DOING
WHAT
ANY CIVIL
SERVANT
IN THEIR
RIGHT MIND
SHOULD
BE DOING.







I AM
AFRAID,
SIR...

HOW DARE
YOU BARGE
INTO THE
HOME OF THE
MEDIATORS!
WE ARE THE
ONES WHO TIE
YOUR DARKNESS
TO THE WORLD
OF HUMANITY.

HOW RUDE.
HAVEN'T YOUR
MASTERS
TRAINED YOU
ANY BETTER,
YOU INHUMAN
MONGRELS?

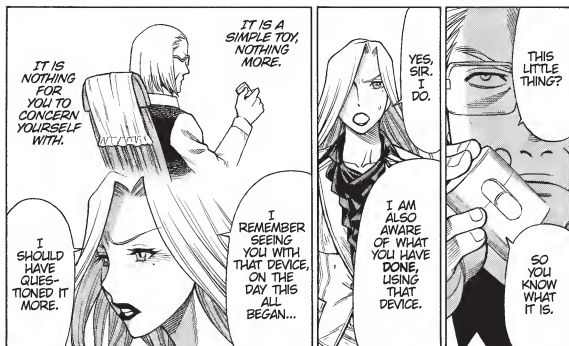
THAT YOU
ARE NO
LONGER
QUALIFIED
TO CALL
YOURSELF A
"MEDIATOR."



THAT
DEVICE
IN YOUR
HAND...

PLEASE
PASS IT
TO ME.

GRAND-
FATHER.





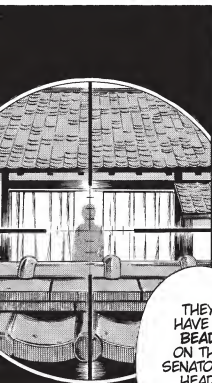
I COULD
PRESS
THIS
BUTTON
AT ANY
MOMENT.

HAVE
A
CARE.

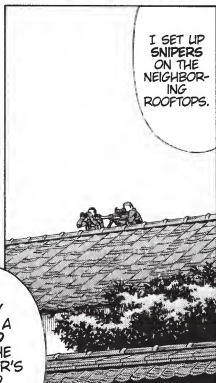


DON'T
WORRY.
WE'VE
GOT
THIS.

HAMA-
KUN---



THEY
HAVE A
BEAD
ON THE
SENATOR'S
HEAD,
RIGHT
NOW.



I SET UP
SNIPERS
ON THE
NEIGHBOR-
ING
ROOFTOPS.



HUN-
DREDS...

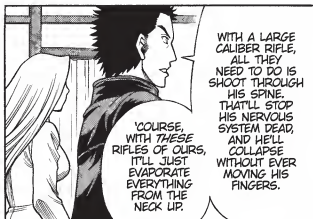
NO,
THOU-
SANDS
OF
HUMANS
MAY DIE.

OR
PERHAPS
EVEN MORE.
WHO KNOWS
HOW MUCH
DAMAGE
THAT MANY
WALKING
TORCHES
MIGHT DO.



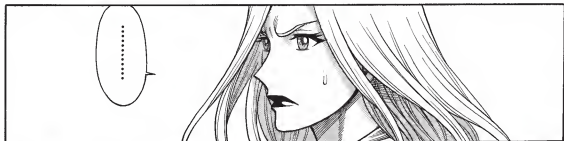
CAN YOU
ORDER
MY DEATH
IN COLD
BLOOD,
REIKO?

DO YOU
THINK
YOU CAN
DO
THAT?



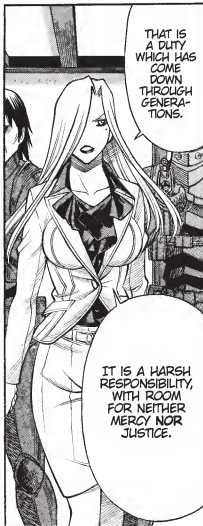
COURSE,
WITH THESE
RIFLES OF OURS,
IT'LL JUST
EVAPORATE
EVERYTHING
FROM THE
NECK UP.

WITH A LARGE
CALIBER RIFLE,
ALL THEY
NEED TO DO IS
SHOOT THROUGH
HIS SPINE.
THAT'LL STOP
HIS NERVOUS
SYSTEM DEAD,
AND HE'LL
COLLAPSE
WITHOUT EVER
MOVING HIS
FINGERS.



WITHOUT
HESITA-
TION!

THUS,
IF YOU DO
NOT HEED MY
WARNING,
GRANDFATHER,
I WILL ORDER
THEM TO
SHOOT...



THAT IS
A DUTY
WHICH HAS
COME
DOWN
THROUGH
GENERA-
TIONS.

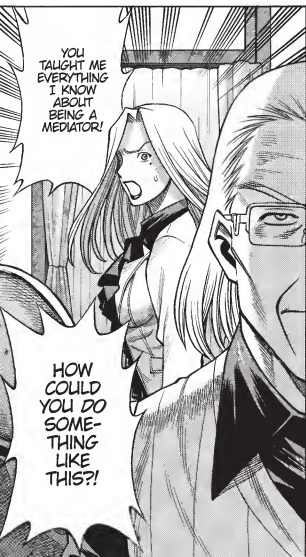
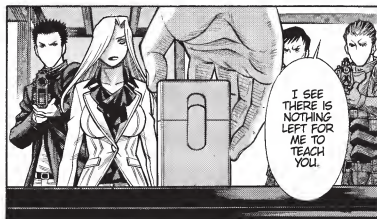
IT IS A HARSH
RESPONSIBILITY,
WITH ROOM
FOR NEITHER
MERCY NOR
JUSTICE.



ONCE,
YOU TOLD
ME A
MEDIATOR
IS A
"BALANCE."

NIGHT
AND
DAY.

HUMANS
AND
INHUMANS.
MEDIATORS
EXIST TO KEEP
THOSE TWO
FORCES ON
AN EVEN
KEEL.



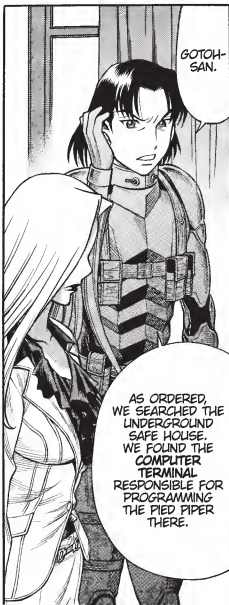


.....



FOR
THE
PURITY
OF MY
COUNTRY,
REIKO.

THOUGH,
I
DOUBT
YOU'D
UNDER-
STAND
THAT
SENTI-
MENT.

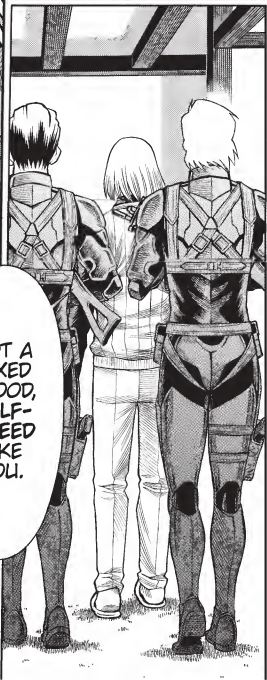


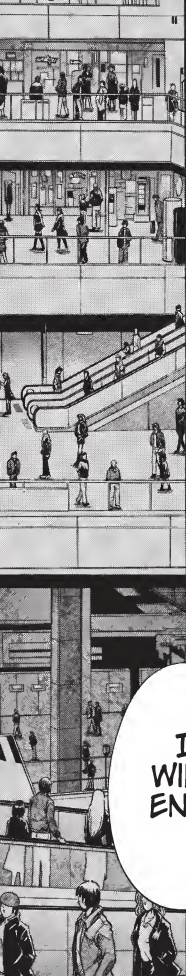
GOTOH-
SAN.

AS ORDERED,
WE SEARCHED THE
UNDERGROUND
SAFE HOUSE.
WE FOUND THE
COMPUTER
TERMINAL
RESPONSIBLE FOR
PROGRAMMING
THE PIED PIPER
THERE.



NOT A
MIXED
BLOOD,
HALF-
BREED
LIKE
YOU.





WHAT MY
GRAND-
FATHER
BEGAN...

I
WILL
END!



GOTOH-
SAN...



WE DON'T
HAVE
TIME TO
RELOCATE
THE
TERMINAL.

PLEASE
BEGIN
REPRO-
GRAMMING
THE PIED
PIPER
COMMAND
PROGRAM
AT ONCE.

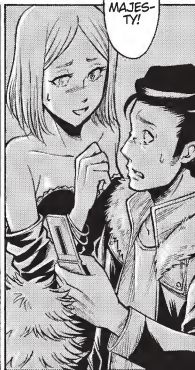
THE TIME
HAS COME
FOR ALL
WHO LIVE
HERE TO
MAKE A
CHOICE.



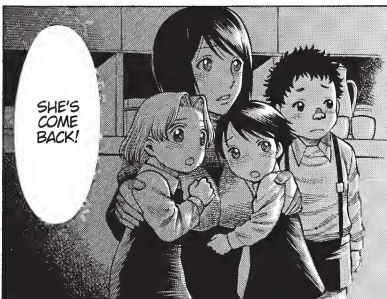
IT'S
HER
MAJES-
TY!



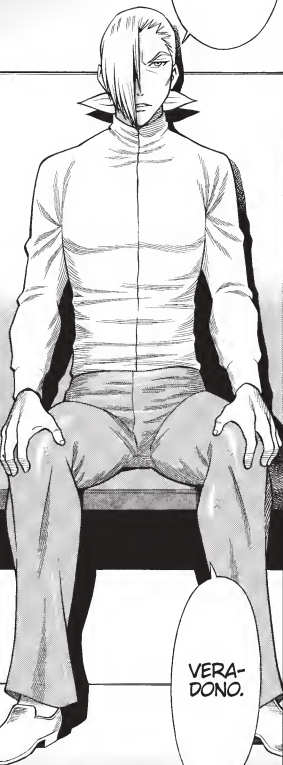
PRINCESS
MINA...



TO WHICH
OF THE TWO
PRINCESSES
WILL THEY
PLEDGE
THEIR
LOYALTY?



SHE'S
COME
BACK!



ASK
YOUR
HEART...

VERA-
DONO.

AKIRA
ONCE
ASKED ME
SOMETHING
VERY
SIMILAR.



ALLOW
ME TO
GIVE
YOU THE
SAME
ANSWER
THAT I
GAVE TO
HIM.



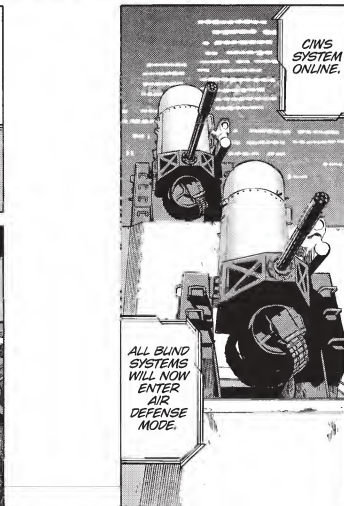
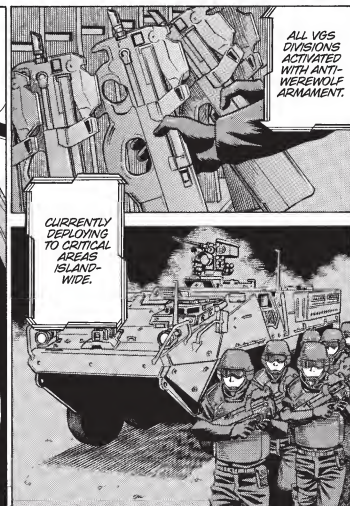
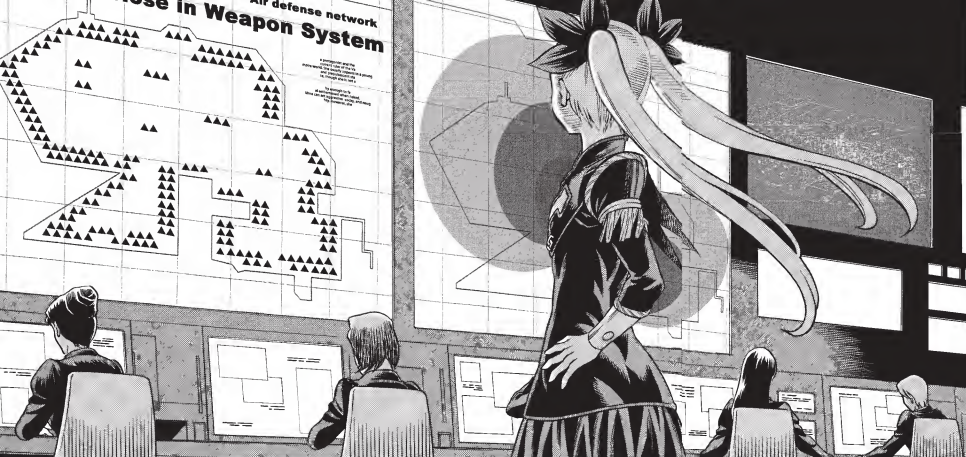
I...
DON'T
KNOW.

WOLFGANG-
DONO, I DO
NOT KNOW
WHICH TO
CHOOSE.

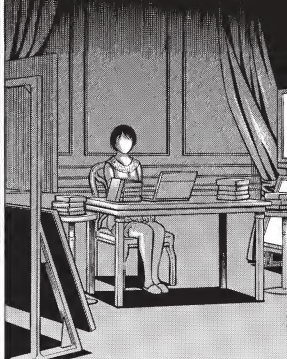
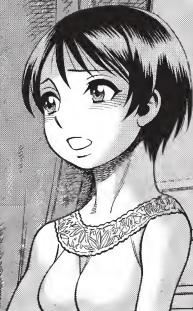


DE-
PLOR-
ABLE,
ISN'T
IT?

ME,
STRUCK
WITH SUCH
INDECISION.
HOW WILL
I BE ABLE
TO FACE
LUCREZIA-
SAMA IN THE
AFTERLIFE
NOW?



MY, MY. I HAD
THOUGHT YOU
WOULD BE
BUSY WITH
PREPARATIONS
FOR
MINA-HIME'S
ARRIVAL.



TK TK TK
I knew fro—



I knew from the start that
Hime-sama would come back.

I knew from the start that
Hime-sama would come back.

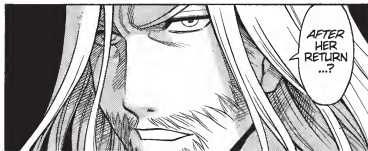
These are preparations for
what we need to do after
she's returned.

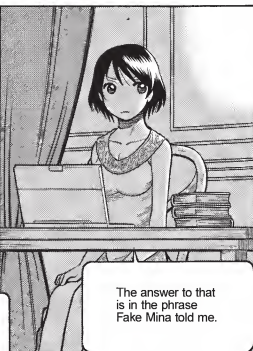
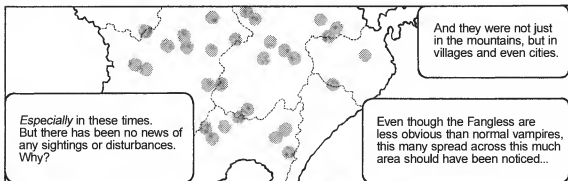
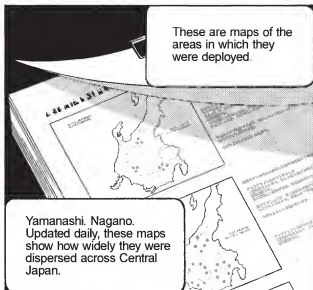
are preparations for
e need to do after

HOW
STRANGE
TO FIND
YOU
BURIED
IN RE-
SEARCH.



AFTER
HER
RETURN
...?





Yes, it is just a myth. Believed to have sprung from the Chinese story of the undersea palace of a dragon, it's considered the origin of the dragon god worshipped at the Suwa Grand Shrine.

THAT IS A SHINTO MYTH.

WHAT HAS THAT TO DO WITH ANYTHING?

But there are several things about it that struck me as odd.

An underground world, like our own.

Immortality.

A man transformed into a dragon.

What does this remind you of?

DEEP INSIDE THE CAVE, HE DISCOVERED A WORLD NOT UNLIKE THAT OF THE OUTSIDE.

LONG AGO, KOGATSUBURO, STEWARD OF TATESHINA, HAD REASON TO ENTER A CAVE HIDDEN IN THE MOUNTAIN WILDS OF MT. FUJI.

AT THE END OF HIS JOURNEY, HE FINALLY RETURNED TO THE SURFACE WORLD...

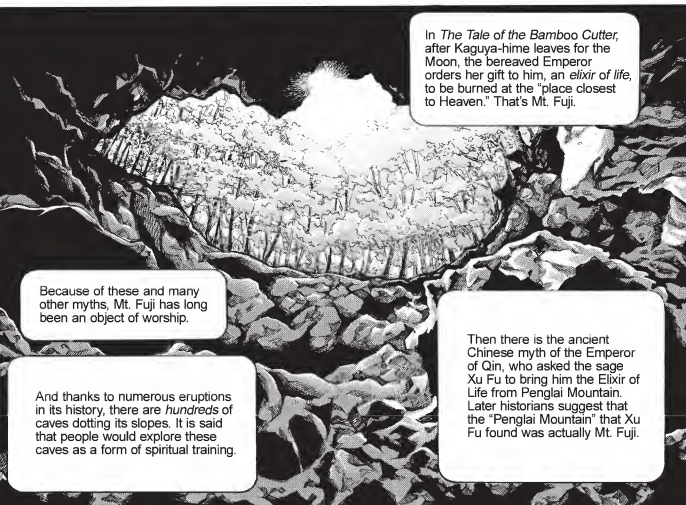
KNOWING NEITHER AGE NOR EXHAUSTION, KOGATSUBURO TRAVELED THROUGHOUT ALL OF THE SEVENTY UNDERGROUND KINGDOMS.

ONLY TO DISCOVER THAT HIS BODY HAD TRANSFORMED INTO THAT OF A GIANT SERPENT.



Central Japan has dozens, if not *hundreds* of myths involving immortality.

Then there is Mt. Fuji itself.



In *The Tale of the Bamboo Cutter*, after Kaguya-hime leaves for the Moon, the bereaved Emperor orders her gift to him, an *elixir of life*, to be burned at the "place closest to Heaven." That's Mt. Fuji.

Because of these and many other myths, Mt. Fuji has long been an object of worship.

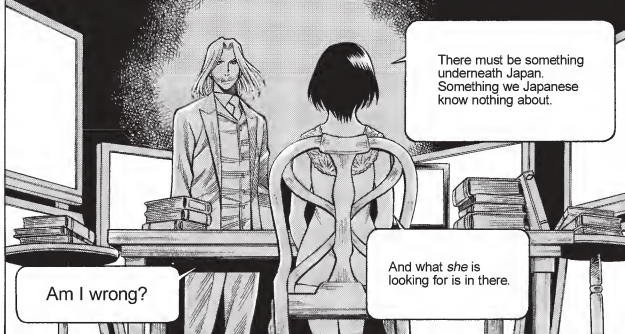
And thanks to numerous eruptions in its history, there are *hundreds* of caves dotting its slopes. It is said that people would explore these caves as a form of spiritual training.

Then there is the ancient Chinese myth of the Emperor of Qin, who asked the sage Xu Fu to bring him the Elixir of Life from Penglai Mountain. Later historians suggest that the "Penglai Mountain" that Xu Fu found was actually Mt. Fuji.



Taken as a whole...

these stories seem to point at a wide belief that something under Mt. Fuji will give people immortality!



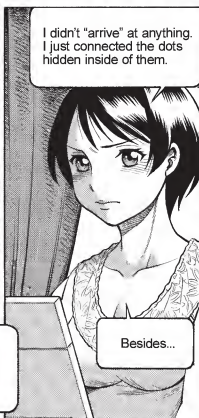
There must be something underneath Japan. Something we Japanese know nothing about.

Am I wrong?

And what *she* is looking for is in there.



I wouldn't have found anything if some mysterious benefactor hadn't given these reports to me.



I didn't "arrive" at anything. I just connected the dots hidden inside of them.

Besides...



YOU ARRIVED AT THAT CONCLUSION AFTER LOOKING AT JUST THESE FEW REPORTS?



BUT
THAT
WAS A
LONG
TIME
AGO...



HUH.
NO
DOUBT
AT ALL,
EH?
YOUR
EYES
HOLD
NONE.

YOU BELIEVE
ABSOLUTELY
THAT HIME-
SAMA WILL
RETURN,
AND ALL
YOU HAVE
TO DO IS
WAIT FOR
HER.



ALMOST
TWO
HUNDRED
YEARS,
TO BE
EXACT.



LOOKING
AT YOU HAS
REMINDED
ME THAT
ONCE, I TOO
WAS AS
DOUBTLESS
AS YOU.

I
SHOULD
THANK
YOU, I
GUESS.



MINA-HIME
FELL INTO
ROZENMANN'S
CLUTCHES, BUT
A DESPERATE
ATTACK BY
VERA AND
BEOWULF SOON
FREED HER.

HOWEVER,
HER MAJESTY
WAS SEPARATED
FROM HER
RESCUERS
DURING THE
FIGHTING. WHEN
THE DUST
SETTLED, NO SIGN
OF HER COULD
BE FOUND
ANYWHERE.



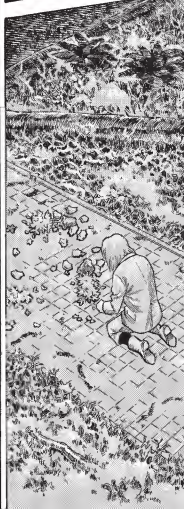
AND THAT'S
WHEN FAKE
MINA SAID
THE SWITCH
HAPPENED.



SHE
INSISTS SHE
REMAINED A
PRISONER,
WHILE HIME-
SAMA WAS
THE ONE
WHO WAS
EVENTUALLY
FOUND.

ON
THAT
DAY...

I CEASED
TO BE A
NAIVE
YOUNG
BOY.



BUT, ONE YEAR OF
SEARCHING BECAME
TWO, BECAME FIVE,
TEN, FIFTEEN. TIME
FLEW BY, TAUNTING
US WITH ITS PASSAGE,
AS HOPE TURNED
INTO A DESPAIR THAT
GNAWED AT OUR
HEARTS.

MY FATHER
AND I
SEARCHED
FOR HER
MAJESTY
EVERYWHERE,
OUR NOSES
TO THE DIRT,
ALMOST LIKE
DOGS.

THE
PROMISE
HER
MAJESTY
MADE WITH
ME ON A
WHIM.

ONLY ONE
THING KEPT
ME FROM
BREAKING
COMPLETELY.

"IT WILL
BE OUR
PROMISE,
THEN."

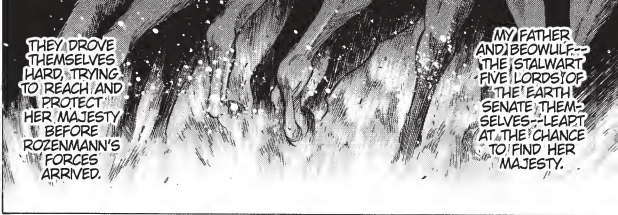
AT THE TIME,
SHE WAS IN
THE CARE
OF AN OLD
WOMAN, LIVING
DEEP IN THE
FORESTS OF
NORTHERN
FRANCE.

HER MAJESTY
WAS BEING
HIDDEN BY
BENEVOLENT
HUMANS,
MOVING FROM
ONE HOME TO
THE NEXT,
ATTEMPTING TO
AVOID ANY
RISK OF
CAPTURE.

THEN ONE
DAY, WE
RECEIVED
NEWS OF HER
MAJESTY'S
WHEREABOUTS
FROM AN
UNEXPECTED
SOURCE.

ONE OF MY
FATHER'S
AGENTS HAD
INFILTRATED
ROZENMANN'S
CLAN AS A
SPY, AND HE
GAVE HIS LIFE
BRINGING US
THE NEWS.

YOU SEE,
ROZENMANN
WAS
TURNING
EUROPE
INSIDE OUT
AS WELL,
LOOKING
FOR HER
MAJESTY. IT
SEEMS HE
HAD MORE
LUCK.

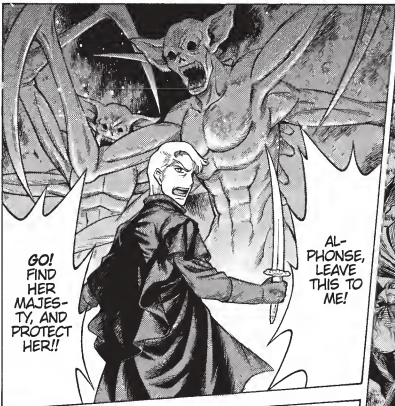


THEY DROVE
THEMSELVES
HARD, TRYING
TO REACH AND
PROTECT
HER MAJESTY
BEFORE
ROZENMANN'S
FORCES
ARRIVED.

MY FATHER
AND BEOWULF--
THE STALWART
FIVE LORDS OF
THE EARTH
SENATE THEM-
SELVES--LEAPT
AT THE CHANCE
TO FIND HER
MAJESTY.



BY THAT TIME,
TWENTY YEARS
HAD ELAPSED
SINCE THE
ORIGINAL
ATTACK.



GO!
FIND
HER
MAJES-
TY, AND
PROTECT
HER!!

AL-
PHONSE,
LEAVE
THIS TO
ME!



BUT,
FATHER
--!!

THIS IS
HOW THE
LORDS OF
BORGIANI
DIE!!

ENGRAVE
THIS
SIGHT
UPON
YOUR
SOUL,
MY SON!

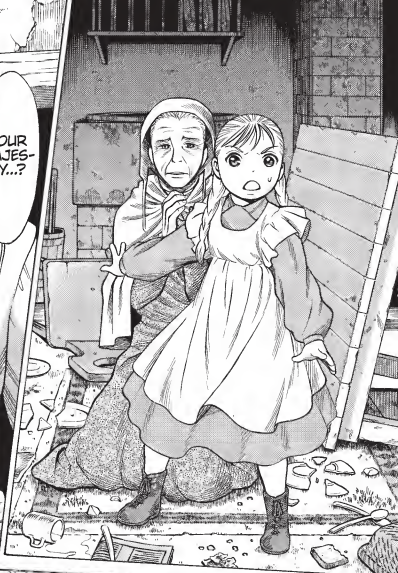


YOUR
MAJES-
TY!

FATHER!!



YOUR
MAJES-
TY...?



YOU'VE
GROWN
SO
TALL...

SO
HANDSOME
AND
DIGNIFIED!

OH
MY...!

LOOK
AT
YOU!



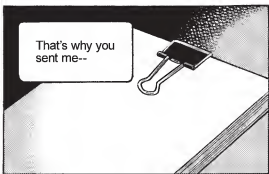
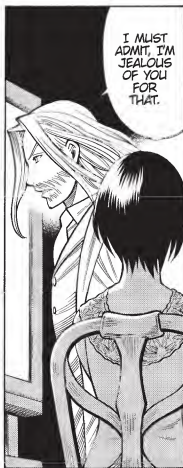
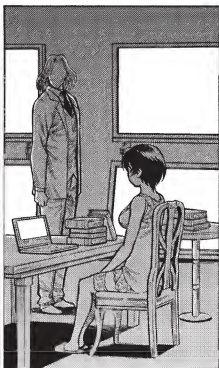
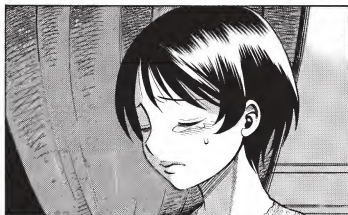
HIME-
SAMA!

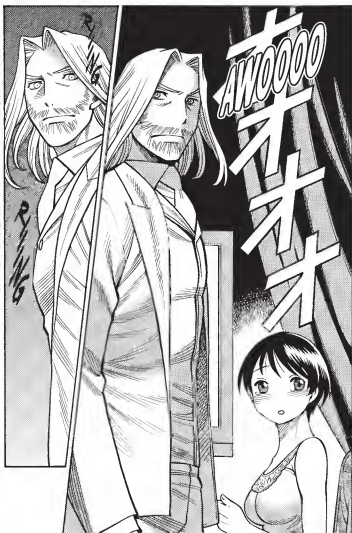
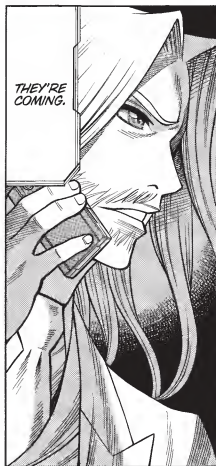


AH
...!

AL-
PHONSE,
IS THAT
YOU?









IT WON'T
BE LONG
BEFORE
THE FIGHT
BECOMES
SERIOUS.
I NEED
YOU IN
THE CIC.
NOW.

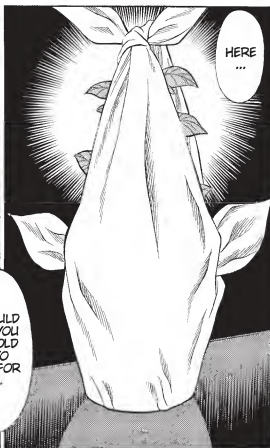
A SKIRMISH
HAS JUST
BROKEN OUT
BETWEEN
THEM AND
THE VGS I
STATIONED
AT THE
TUNNEL'S
GATE.



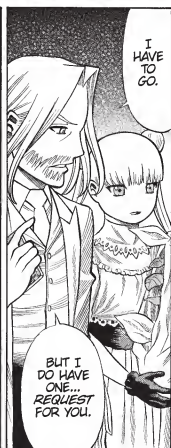
BEOWULF
HAS
ALREADY
STORMED
THE
TUNNEL
FROM THE
MAINLAND.



I WOULD
LIKE YOU
TO HOLD
ONTO
THIS FOR
ME.



HERE
...



I
HAVE
TO
GO.

BUT I
DO HAVE
ONE...
REQUEST
FOR YOU.

特区監督庁臨時指揮所

SPECIAL
DISTRICT
POLICE
TEMPORARY
HQ

WE SHOVED
AS MANY OF
THEM INTO
THAT NARROW
TUNNEL AS
WE COULD,
AND THEY'RE
MAKING
A WHOLE
HELLUVA
LOTTA NOISE.

AND
THAT'S WHAT
WE WANT.
THE MORE
EYE-GRAB-
BING THEY
ARE, THE
BETTER.

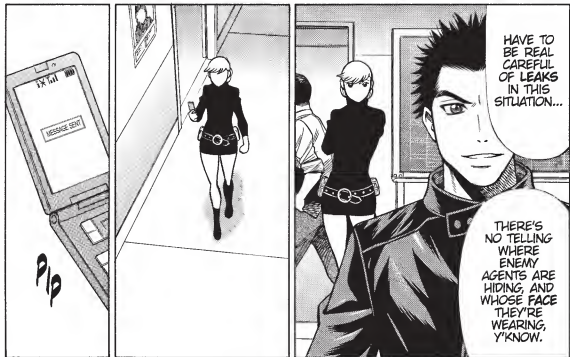
TWEN-
TY
MIN-
UTES.

HOW LONG
HAS IT BEEN
SINCE
BEOWULF
BEGAN
FIGHTING?



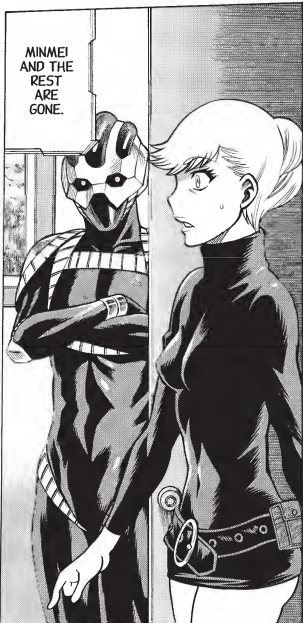
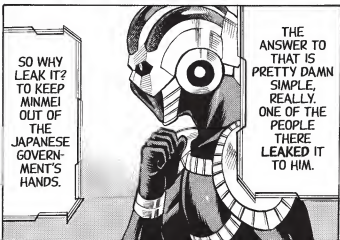
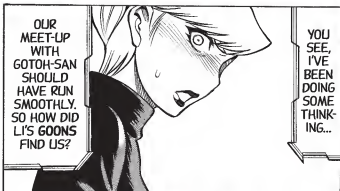
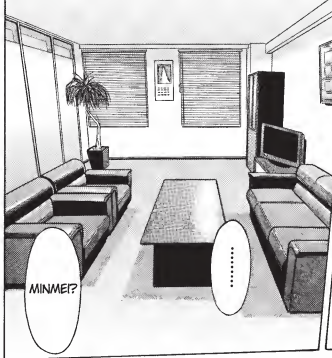
NOT
ONE
DAMN
THING.

WHAT
HAVE WE
HEARD
FROM
MINA-
HIME?



HAVE TO
BE REAL
CAREFUL
OF LEAKS
IN THIS
SITUATION...

THERE'S
NO TELLING
WHERE
ENEMY
AGENTS ARE
HIDING, AND
WHOSE FACE
THEY'RE
WEARING,
Y'KNOW.



THIS LEAK
WASN'T
AT ALL
EXPECTING
SOMEONE
AS BIG AS
COUNCILOR
RYUJI TO
SHOW UP.

R
I
G
H
T
?

H
O
W
-
E
V
E
R
...

J
U
S
T
L
I
K
E
S
H
E'
S
D
O
N
E
M
U
L
T
I
P
L
E
T
I
M
E
S
A
L
R
E
A
D
Y.

W
H
O
E
V
E
R
T
H
E
L
E
A
K
W
A
S,
T
H
E
Y
P
R
O
B
A
B
L
Y
E
X
P
E
C
T
E
D
T
O
Q
U
I
E
T
L
Y
S
L
I
P
A
W
A
Y
W
H
I
L
E
W
E
F
O
U
G
H
T
L
I'
S
G
O
O
N
S,
T
A
K
I
N
G
M
I
N
M
E
I
W
I
T
H
H
E
R.

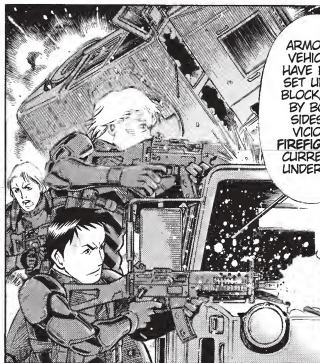
W
H
O
A
R
E
Y
O
U?

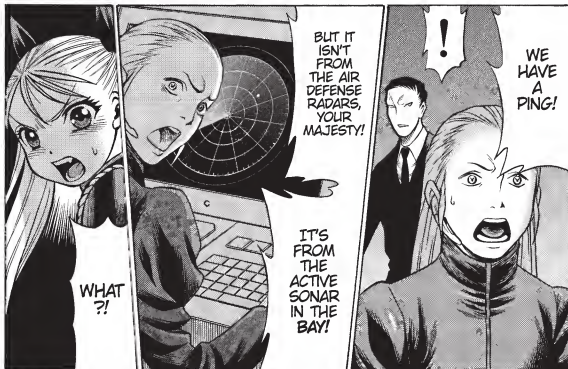
W
A
I
T
J
U
S
T
O
N
E
M
I
N
U
T
E...

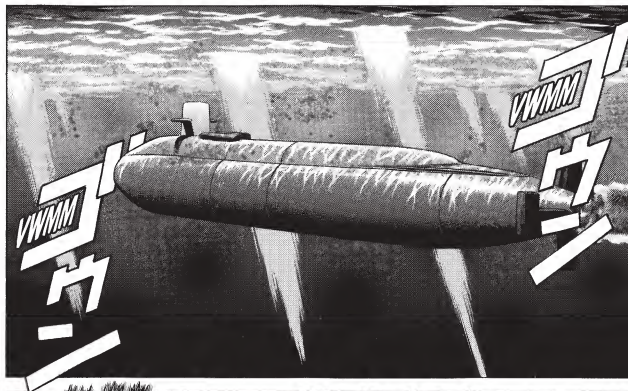
T
H
A
T,
M
I
S
S
L
E
A
K...

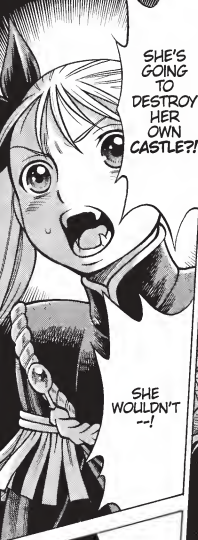
I
S
M
Y
L
I
N
E
!!

F
U
N
S
H



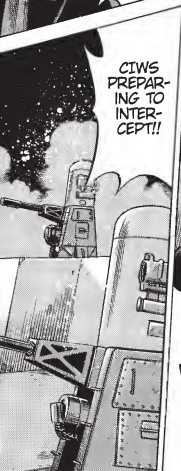






SHE'S
GOING
TO
DESTROY
HER
OWN
CASTLE?!

SHE
WOULDN'T
--!



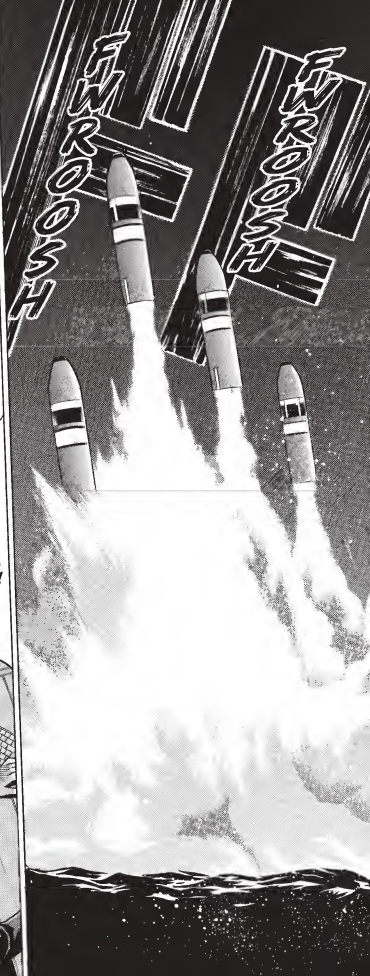
CIWS
PREPAR-
ING TO
INTER-
CEPT!!

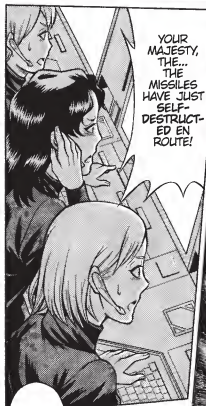
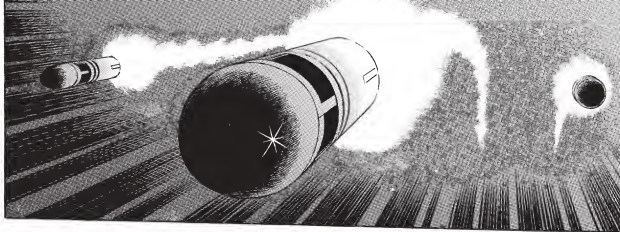


SUBMARINE
MISSILES
LAUNCHED!
MULTIPLE
SLBMs
CONFIRMED
!!

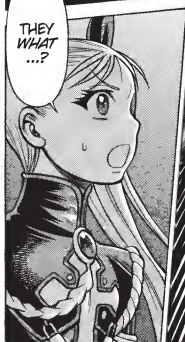
THEY'RE
ON A
DIRECT
COURSE
FOR THIS
LOCATION!

WHAT
?!





YOUR
MAJESTY,
THE...
THE
MISSILES
HAVE JUST
SELF-
DESTRUCT-
ED EN
ROUTE!



THEY
WHAT
...?





WAIT,
I'VE
GOT
VISUAL!

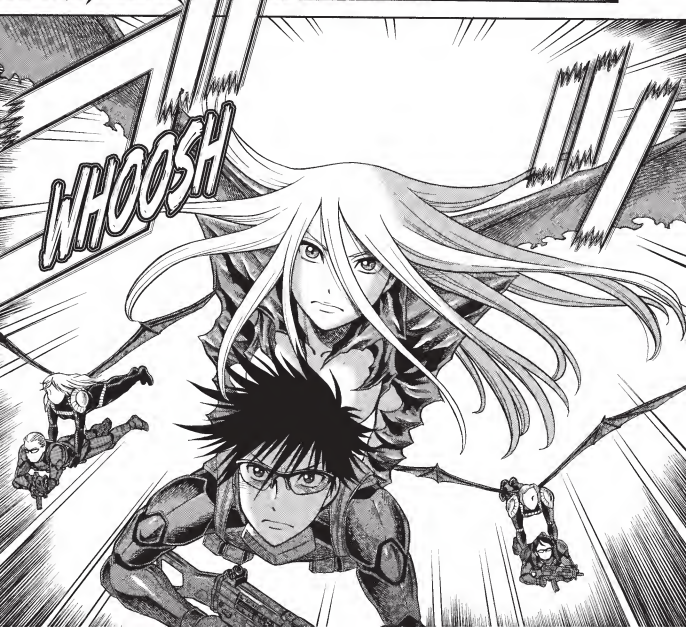
WHAT
IS ALL
THIS
?!

WHAT THE
HECK...?
I'M SEEING
DOZENS
OF TINY
BLIPS!

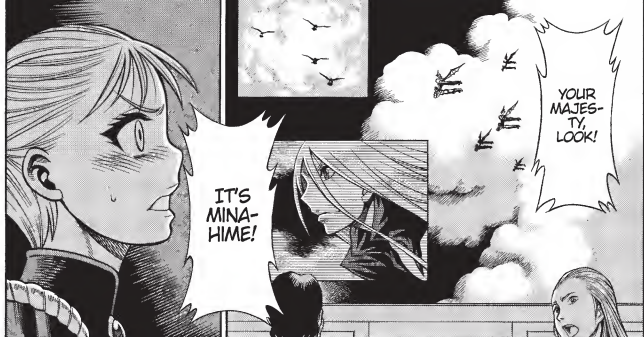
!



SOMETHING'S
COMING OUT
OF THE
SMOKE...
IT LOOKS
LIKE
HUNDREDS
OF
SHADOWS!!

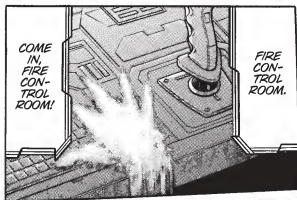


WHOOOSH



IT'S
MINA-
HIME!

YOUR
MAJES-
TY,
LOOK!



COME
IN,
FIRE
CON-
TROL
ROOM!

FIRE
CON-
TROL
ROOM.

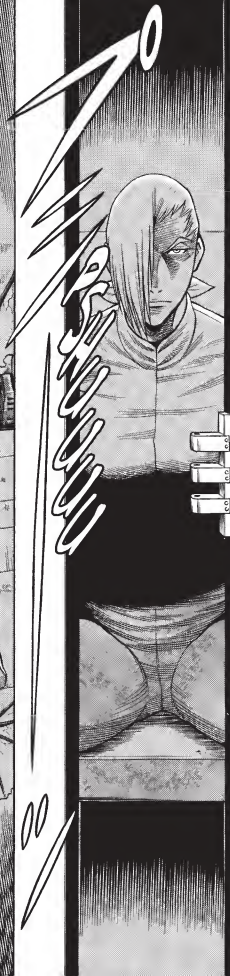


CEASE THIS
UNSIGHTLY
PANIC!
SWITCH
TO THE
OPTICAL
SENSORS!!

CIWS
IS NOT
TRACK-
ING!

REPEAT,
CIWS IS
NOT REC-
OGNIZING
THEIR SIL-
HOUETTES
AS VIABLE
TARGETS!

THAT
SHOULD GIVE
THE FIRE
CONTROL
ROOM
VISUAL
CONTROL
OVER TAR-
GETING.



DETENTION
DIVISION

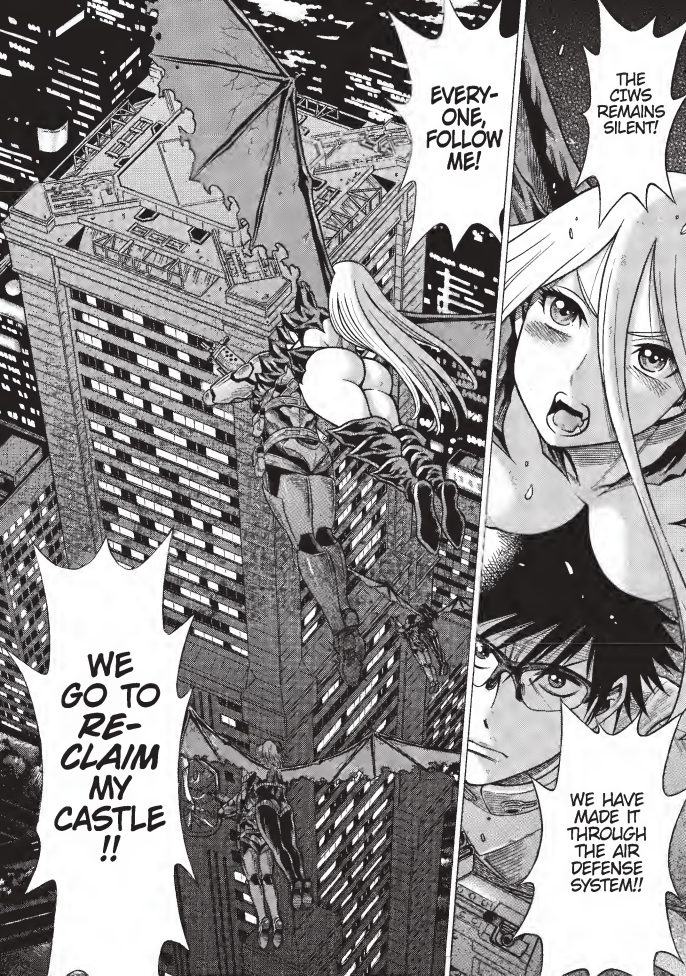
CAGE-11
PRISONER :
W.V.Regendor

UNLOCK

empire, country to Werewolves, are a form
of evolved human. Werewolves
only predators, like the wolf, and to humans
empire emotions, and they are only more
giving many vamp

CLANK





EVERY-
ONE,
FOLLOW
ME!

THE
CIWS
REMAINS
SILENT!

WE
GO TO
RE-
CLAIM
MY
CASTLE
!!

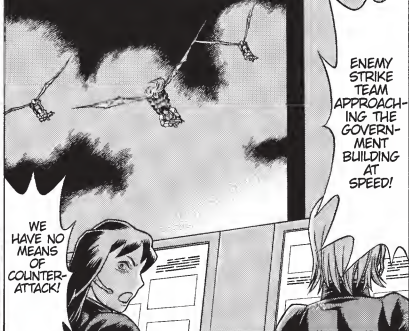
WE HAVE
MADE IT
THROUGH
THE AIR
DEFENSE
SYSTEM!!



ENEMY STRIKE TEAM?

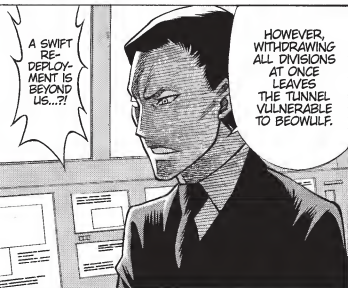
B-BUT THAT'S PRINCESS MINA!

I... I KNOW, BUT...!



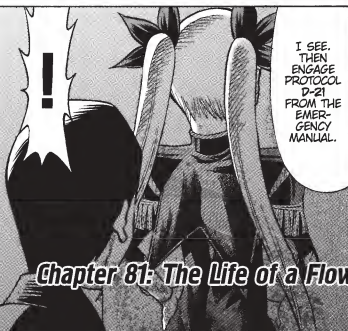
ENEMY STRIKE TEAM APPROACHING THE GOVERNMENT BUILDING AT SPEED!

WE HAVE NO MEANS OF COUNTER-ATTACK!



A SWIFT RE-DEPLOYMENT IS BEYOND US...?!

HOWEVER, WITHDRAWING ALL DIVISIONS AT ONCE LEAVES THE TUNNEL VULNERABLE TO BEOWULF.



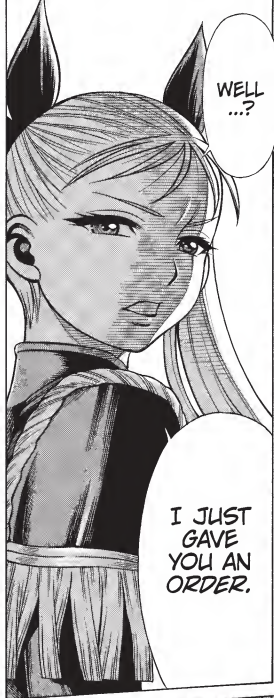
I SEE. THEN ENGAGE PROTOCOL D-21 FROM THE EMERGENCY MANUAL.



WITHDRAW THE VGS FROM THE TUNNEL IMMEDIATELY, AND DEPLOY THEM IN DEFENSE OF THIS BUILDING!

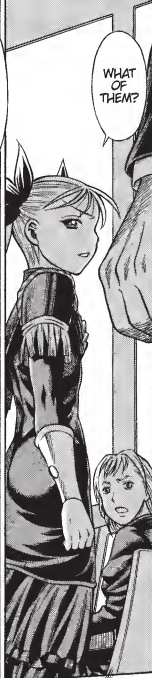
ERM... WE ARE ALREADY DOING SO WITH ALL HASTE, YOUR MAJESTY.

Chapter 81: The Life of a Flower



WELL...?

I JUST
GAVE
YOU AN
ORDER.



WHAT
OF THEM?



YOUR
MAJESTY...
DO YOU TRULY
WISH TO
DETONATE
THE TUNNEL
CEILING AND
FLOOD IT WITH
SEAWATER?

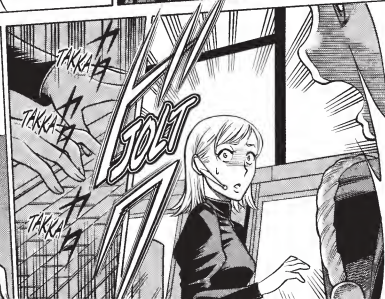
YES.
THAT IS
THE
QUICKEST
WAY OF
DEALING
WITH IT.

BUT
THERE
ARE STILL
VGS
DIVISIONS
WITHIN
THE--

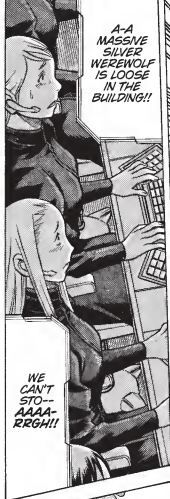


P-
PROTOCOL
D-21...

ENGA--



DO
IT!!



A-A
MASSIVE
SILVER
WEREWOLF
IS LOOSE
IN THE
BUILDING!!

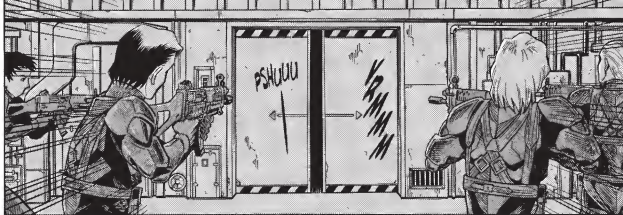
WE
CAN'T
STO--
AAAA-
RRGH!!



IT
CAN'T
BE!



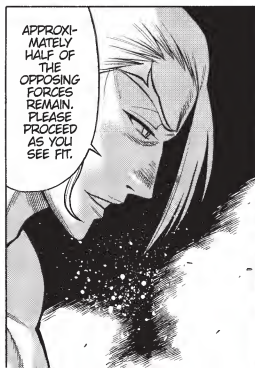




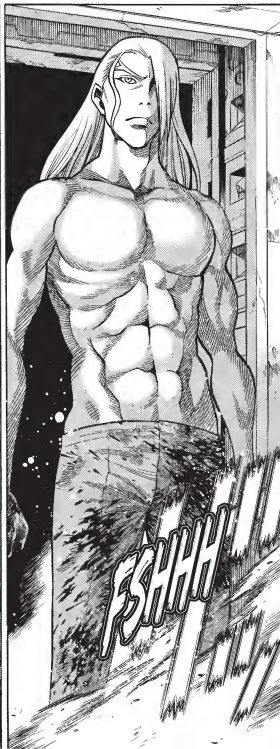
HA!
AND HERE
I THOUGHT
OUR
ENTRANCE
WAS
FLASHY
ENOUGH...

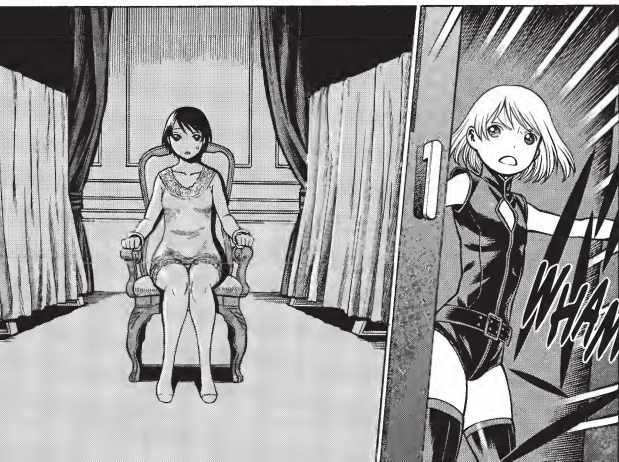
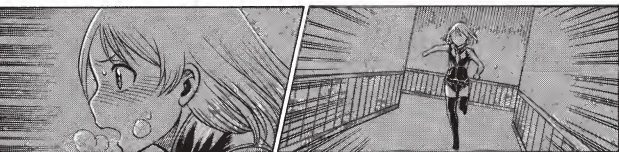
BUT IT
SEEMS YOU
HAVE
STOLEN THE
LIMELIGHT
FROM US.

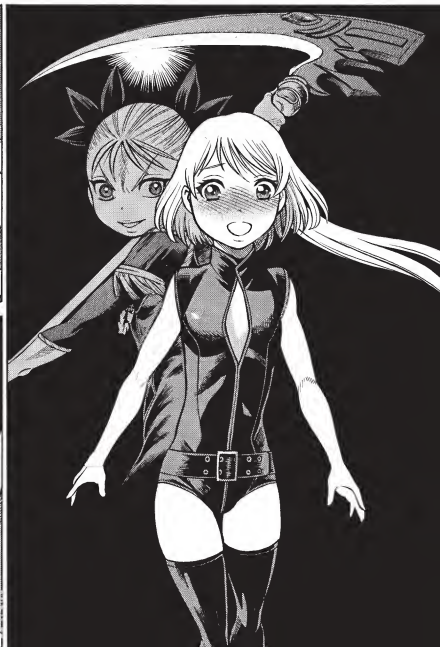
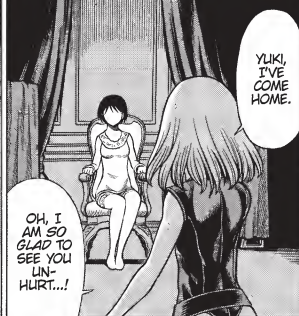
YOUR
MAJESTY.
I HAVE
LONG
AWAITED
YOUR
RETURN.
WELCOME.



APPROXI-
MATELY
HALF OF
THE
OPPOSING
FORCES
REMAIN.
PLEASE
PROCEED
AS YOU
SEE FIT.









WAIT
JUST
ONE
MO-
MENT,
OKAY?

I
WILL
TAKE
THAT
YOKE
FROM
YOU
AND--

BEHIND
YOU!!

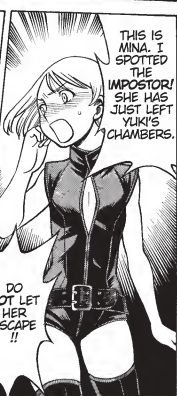
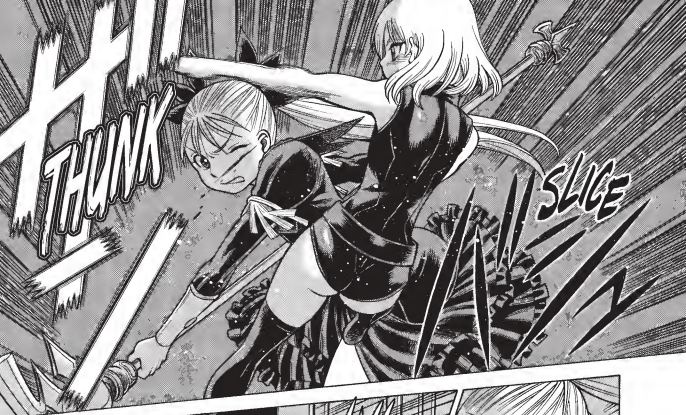
H
I

M
E
I

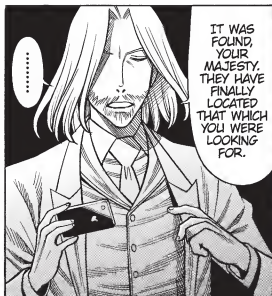
BE-
HIND
YOU
!!!

S
A
M
A
A
A
A
!!!

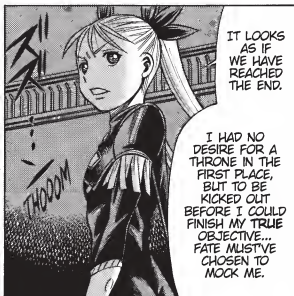
GUSH







IT WAS FOUND, YOUR MAJESTY. THEY HAVE FINALLY LOCATED THAT WHICH YOU WERE LOOKING FOR.



IT LOOKS AS IF WE HAVE REACHED THE END.

I HAD NO DESIRE FOR A THRONE IN THE FIRST PLACE, BUT TO BE KICKED OUT BEFORE I COULD FINISH MY TRUE OBJECTIVE... FATE MUST'VE CHOSEN TO MOCK ME.



IS IT!

EXCEL-
LENT!



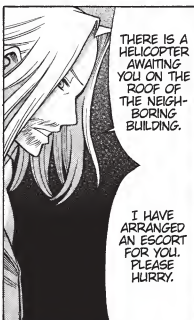
THIS...

I RECEIVED WORD FROM THE FANGLESS OF ITS DISCOVERY ONLY A FEW MINUTES AGO.



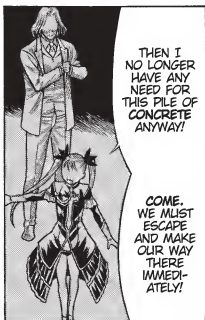
WHAT ABOUT YOU?

ARE YOU NOT COMING AS WELL?



THERE IS A HELICOPTER AWAITING YOU ON THE ROOF OF THE NEIGHBORING BUILDING.

I HAVE ARRANGED AN ESCORT FOR YOU. PLEASE HURRY.



THEN I NO LONGER HAVE ANY NEED FOR THIS PILE OF CONCRETE ANYWAY!

COME, WE MUST ESCAPE AND MAKE OUR WAY THERE IMMEDIATELY!



THERE
ARE
THINGS
THAT STILL
NEED TO
BE TAKEN
CARE OF.

I'M
AFRAID
NOT,
YOUR
MAJ-
ESTY.



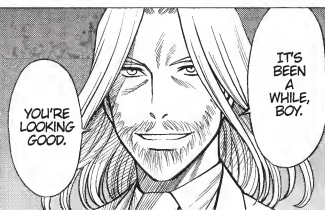
IN
THE END,
EVEN
YOU
CHOOSE
HER.

I
SEE.



WHAT-
EVER.

I HAVE
BEEN
ALONE
FROM THE
BEGINNING,
ANYWAY.



YOU'RE
LOOKING
GOOD.

IT'S
BEEN
A
WHILE,
BOY.



HEY.



IF YOU
WANT TO
KNOW,
YOU WILL
HAVE TO
BEAT ME
FIRST.



GOOD
QUES-
TION.

WHERE
IS
SHE?



I CAN'T
SAY I
KNOW
WHAT
YOU'RE
THINKING
JUST
YET...



WHAT
SAY WE
JUST
QUIT
ALL THIS,
OKAY?

WE DON'T
NEED THE
DUMB ACTS
ANYMORE.



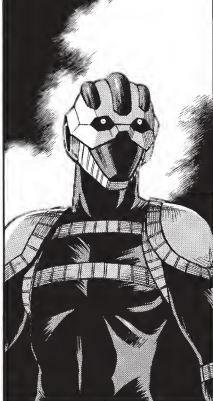
SHEESH.





I THINK
I'VE
FIGURED
OUT WHO IT
IS YOU'RE
WORKING
FOR,
MR. MASK.

YOU
KNOW...



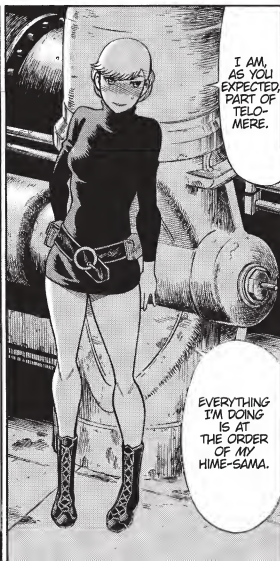
BUT...

I THINK
I'VE GOT
A PRETTY
GOOD
IDEA.



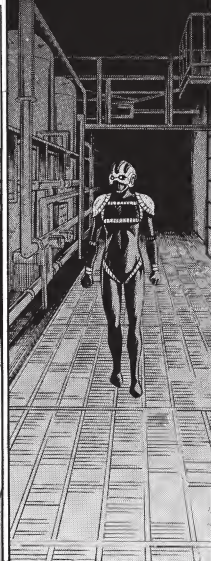
THOUGHT
SO.

YOU WERE
AIMING
TO USE MINMEI
AND THOSE
REFUGEES
TO KICK OFF
A PANDEMIC
FROM THE
BEGINNING.



I AM,
AS YOU
EXPECTED,
PART OF
TELO-
MERE.

EVERYTHING
I'M DOING
IS AT
THE ORDER
OF MY
HIME-SAMA.



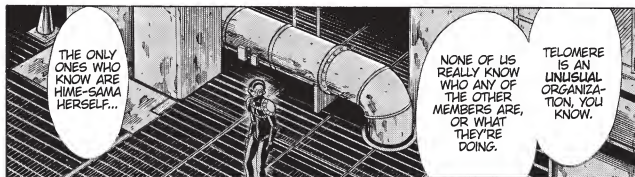


?

FROM
EVERYONE.

MY
ORDERS
ARE TO
PROTECT
HER...

INCOR-
RECT.



THE ONLY
ONES WHO
KNOW ARE
HIME-SAMA
HERSELF...

NONE OF US
REALLY KNOW
WHO ANY OF
THE OTHER
MEMBERS ARE,
OR WHAT
THEY'RE
DOING.

TELOMERE
IS AN
UNUSUAL
ORGANIZA-
TION, YOU
KNOW.



SKASH

AND HER
CLOSEST
ADVISORS!



FREEZE!!

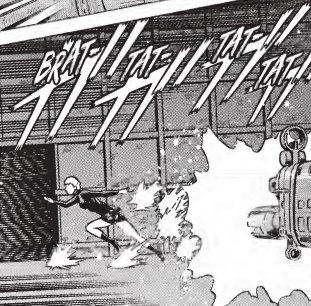
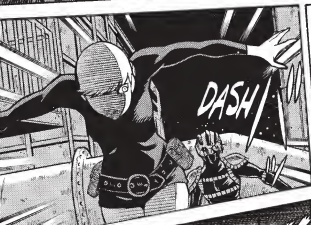
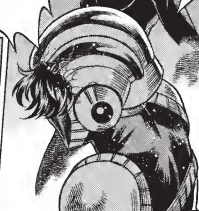


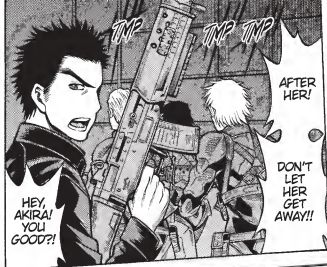
I TOLD
HER
FROM THE
VERY
BEGINNING
THAT SHE
COULDN'T
TRUST
HIM!

I
WARNED
HIME-
SAMA!



YOUR
ARM!



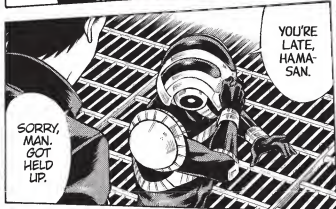


HEY,
AKIRA!
YOU
GOOD?!

TMP TMP TMP

AFTER
HER!

DON'T
LET
HER
GET
AWAY!!



SORRY,
MAN.
GOT
HELD
UP.

YOU'RE
LATE,
HAMA-
SAN.



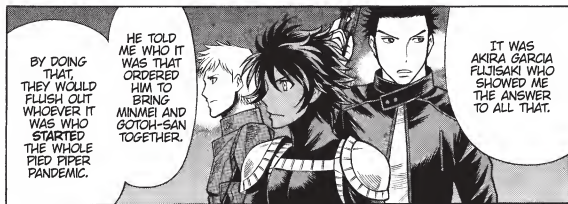
WHO
COULD SAVE
NANAMI-
KAICHO?
WHO COULD
POINT HER
AND THE
OTHER THREE
MAIDS TO
SAVE ME
IN NYC?

HELL,
WHO WOULD
EVEN KNOW
WHAT WAS
GOING ON
IN CHAIN
SMOKER'S
FOREST,
MUCH LESS
SEND FOR
HELP
THERE?

AND THIS
SOMEBODY
NOT ONLY
KNEW, HE SET
UP A PLAN
TO FREE
HIME-SAN AND
BRING HER
BACK HOME.



SEE,
I'VE
BEEN
THINKING
ABOUT IT
FOR A
WHILE.



BY DOING THAT, THEY WOULD FLUSH OUT WHOEVER IT WAS WHO STARTED THE WHOLE PIED PIPER PANDEMIC.

HE TOLD ME WHO IT WAS THAT ORDERED HIM TO BRING MINAMEI AND GOTOH-SAN TOGETHER.

IT WAS AKIRA GARCIA FUJISAKI WHO SHOWED ME THE ANSWER TO ALL THAT.



I DON'T GET IT, MAN. YOU WERE THE ONE WHO SOLD OUT HIME-SAN TO TELOMERE IN THE FIRST PLACE.

WHY TURN AROUND AND GO THIS FAR TO GET HER BACK?



I... COULDN'T TELL. I DIDN'T KNOW WHICH ONE OF THEM WAS MY TRUE HIME-SAMA.



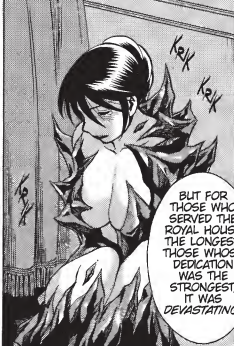
IT WAS YOU, ALPHONSE.

IT WAS YOU FROM THE BEGINNING.



IT WAS PRO-
FOUNDLY CONFU-
SING...

LEADING TO A
DEEP HEART-
RENDING INDECISION.



BUT FOR THOSE WHO
SERVED THE ROYAL HOUSE
THE LONGEST, THOSE WHOSE
DEDICATION WAS THE
STRONGEST, IT WAS
DEVASTATING.



IT CAN BE CHILLING
FOR ANY VAMPIRE TO
BE FACED WITH TWO
WHO BEAR THE TRUE
BLOOD, TWO QUEENS
DESERVING OF RESPECT
AND LOYALTY.



DESPITE MY VOW, I
TRANSFORMED INTO MY TRUE
FORM TO PROTECT HER
FROM THOSE MONSTERS,
AWAKENING MY VAMPIRE
BLOOD.



SO I
THOUGHT.

AT LEAST, I DID UNTIL
THAT DAY TWO
HUNDRED YEARS
AGO.



BUT THAT'S
STUPID!

HIME-SAN
IS
HIME-SAN!
THERE'S NEVER
BEEN ANY OTHER!



IT WASN'T
A
SCOLD-
ING.



NOW,
ALL THESE
MANY
DECADES
LATER, I
UNDERSTAND
HER
MAJESTY'S
SAD SMILE
THAT DAY...

DO NOT
WANDER
OFF DOWN
THE ROAD
OF LIFE
WITHOUT
ME...

HE WAS
SIMPLY
TRYING TO
SAVE HIS
SON FROM
A LOVE THAT
WOULD
NEVER
BEAR FRUIT.

AND
WHY MY
FATHER
YELLED AT
ME THE
WAY HE
DID.

SILENCE!
NEVER
SAY THAT
AGAIN.
UNDERSTAND?



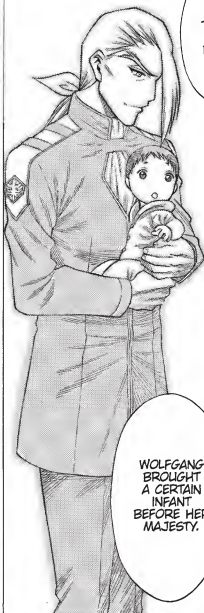
AT THAT MOMENT,
A STRONG--
ALMOST
IRRATIONALLY
STRONG--
LOYALTY TOWARDS
MY RIGHTFUL
QUEEN BUBBLED
UP WITHIN ME.

ALONG WITH
IT CAME A
DESPERATE
NEED TO
SERVE.



TRULY,
IT WAS AN
OVER-
WHELMING
NEED.

IT WAS SO
POWERFUL...
THERE WAS
NO ROOM
LEFT FOR ANY
FEELINGS OF
LOVE OR
ROMANCE.



BUT
THEN,
ONE
DAY...

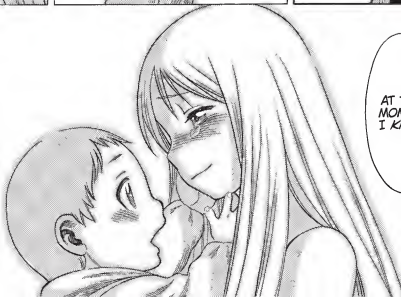
WOLFGANG
BROUGHT
A CERTAIN
INFANT
BEFORE HER
MAJESTY.

MY DREAM
TO LIVE BY
HER SIDE
ENDED
THAT DAY.

I
THOUGHT
THAT WAS
THE ONLY
WAY I
COULD BE
FAITHFUL
TO MY
FEELINGS
FOR HER.

SO I THREW
MYSELF INTO
MY FAMILY'S
DUTIES,
BECOMING HER
MAJESTY'S
PROTECTOR
IN THE
SHADOWS,
AS MY FATHER
HAD BEEN.

I KNEW
THAT THIS
INFANT
WAS THE
CHILD HER
MAJESTY
HAD BEEN
WAITING
FOR.

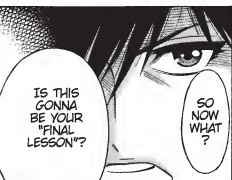


AT THAT
MOMENT,
I KNEW.



HUHN.
SO THAT'S
WHY YOU
WERE
ALWAYS A
HARD-ASS
TOWARDS
ME.

YOUR
TEACHING
COULD PUT
SPARTA
TO SHAME,
Y'KNOW.



IS THIS
GONNA
BE YOUR
"FINAL
LESSON"?

SO
NOW
WHAT
?



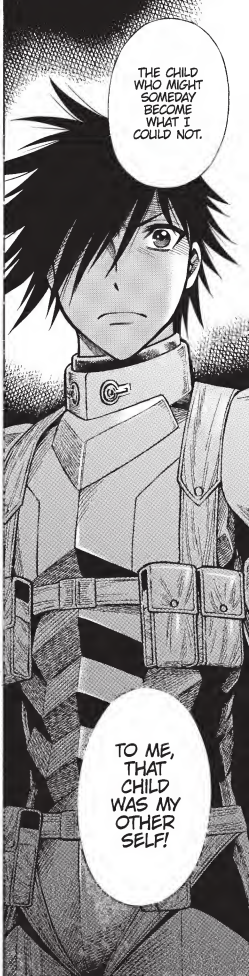
I AM
DONE
WITH
WORDS!



I HAD
TO MAKE
CERTAIN
HE GREW
INTO A
STRONG
AND
CAPABLE
MAN!

THUS,
I WOULD
NEED TO
TRAIN
THAT
CHILD!

HE HAD TO
BE SOMEONE
WHO COULD
STAND IN MY
PLACE AT HER
MAJESTY'S
SIDE, SOMEONE
WHO COULD
SURVIVE BY
HER SIDE AND
PROTECT
HER!



THE CHILD
WHO MIGHT
SOMEDAY
BECOME
WHAT I
COULD NOT.

TO ME,
THAT
CHILD
WAS MY
OTHER
SELF!



TO BE
HONEST,
I REALLY
DON'T
WANNA
DO
THIS.

BUT,
Y'KNOW
...



POK

GRK



SHOW
ME,
BOY!

PROVE
TO ME
YOU ARE
WORTHY
TO STAND
AT MINA
TEPES'
ELBOW!

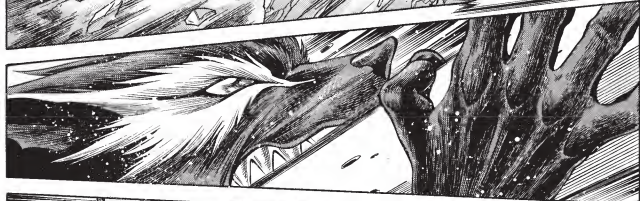
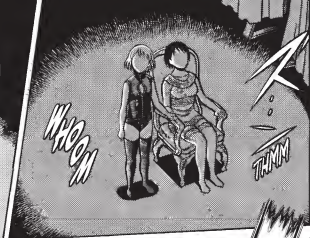
SRNNK

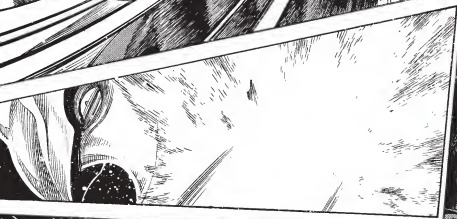


NOT
FOR
YOU...

IF WE
DON'T HAVE
IT OUT NOW,
THINGS
WON'T EVER
BE SETTLED
BETWEEN
US!

OR
FOR
ME!!









FOOLISH,
I KNOW.
A SHALLOW
REGRET.

LAUGH
AT ME
IF YOU
WANT.



IT WAS
A VAIN
DREAM...

BUT I
COULD NOT
HELP BUT
THINK THAT
MAYBE THIS
QUEEN
COULD BE
MINE.



THAT...
WASN'T
TRUE.
I
KNEW.

I...
I JUST
LET
MYSELF
DREAM
FOR A
MOMENT.



I
SEE...



I'LL
NEVER
LAUGH
AT
THAT.



I WON'T.
I DON'T
CARE IF
EVERYONE
ELSE
DOES...

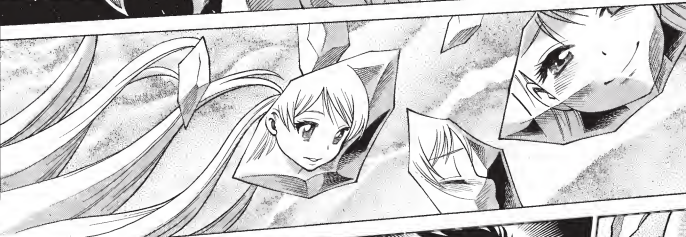
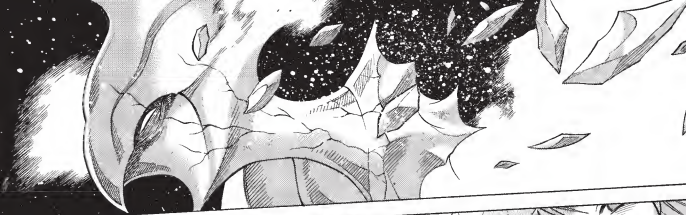


WELL THEN!

DESTROY
ME...

RID
ME OF
THIS
REGRET
!!

AKIRAAAA!!!



YOUR...
MAJ-
ESTY...

F-FOR-
EVER...
YOURS...



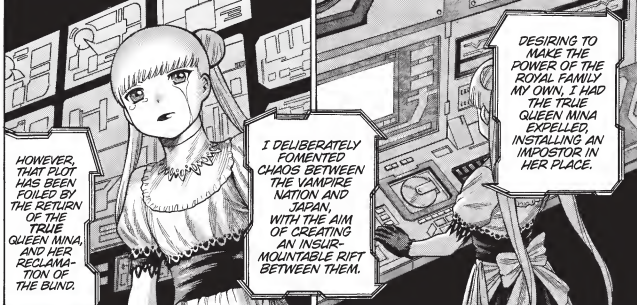
SKRCH.

SKRACH.

ATTENTION,
CITIZENS
OF THE
VAMPIRE
BLIND
AND THE NATION OF
JAPAN.

I AM
ALPHONSE
MEDICI
BORGIANI.
DUE TO
INTERFERENCE
IN MY SCHEMES,
THE PRESENT
DISTURBANCE
HAS BEEN
BROUGHT TO
AN END.





HOWEVER,
THAT PLOT
HAS BEEN
FOILED BY
THE RETURN
OF THE
TRUE
QUEEN MINA,
AND HER
RECLAMA-
TION OF
THE BLIND.

I DELIBERATELY
FOMENTED
CHAOS BETWEEN
THE VAMPIRE
NATION AND
JAPAN,
WITH THE AIM
OF CREATING
AN INSUR-
MOUNTABLE RIFT
BETWEEN THEM.

DESIRING TO
MAKE THE
POWER OF THE
ROYAL FAMILY
MY OWN, I HAD
THE TRUE
QUEEN MINA
EXPULSED,
INSTALLING AN
IMPOSTOR IN
HER PLACE.



NOW
I GET
IT.

ON THIS,
I REST
THE LAST
SHREDS
OF WHAT
HONOR
I HAVE
LEFT...

QUEEN MINA,
BANISHED
FROM HER OWN
KINGDOM,
IS ENTIRELY
INNOCENT.
THROUGH NO
FAULT OF HERS
DID ANY OF
THIS OCCUR.

ACCORDINGLY,
I SURRENDER
UNCONDITIO-
NALLY AND
WILL ATONE
FOR MY
CRIMES WITH
MY LIFE.

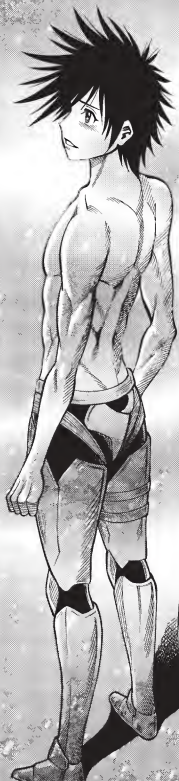
ALPHONSE
...

SO
THAT'S
WHY YOU
WERE
TRYING
SO HARD
TO DIE.

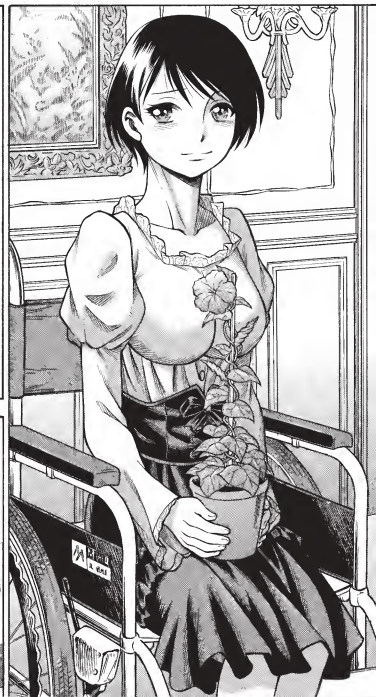
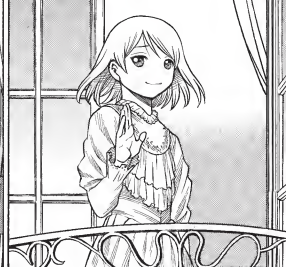
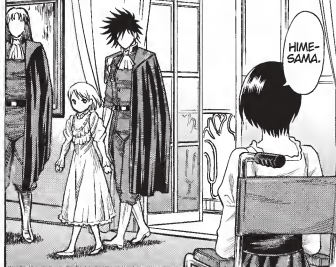
ALL
RESPONSIBILITY
FOR THIS
DISTURBANCE
RESTS SOLELY
ON ME. THOSE
WHO AIDED ME
DID SO ONLY
BY MY ORDER,
AND SHOULD
BE HELD
BLAMELESS.



YOU DID IT,
ALPHONSE.



YOU
PROTECTED
HIME-SAN
ALL THE
WAY TO
THE BITTER
END.





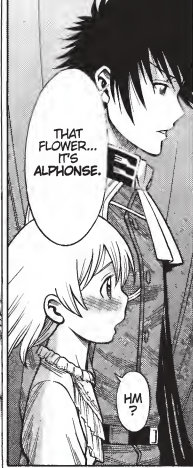
AND IF,
IN THAT BRIEF
SPACE OF TIME,
I SHOULD HAVE
THE CHANCE
TO DECORATE
HER HAIR...

THAT
WOULD BE
ENOUGH.



I'VE HAD
QUITE
ENOUGH OF
IMMORTALITY,
THANK YOU.

IN MY
NEXT LIFE,
I WANT TO BE
A FLOWER.
A DELICATE,
EPHEMERAL
FLOWER
THAT WOULD
BLOOM AT
DUSK, AND
WILT AWAY
BY DAWN.



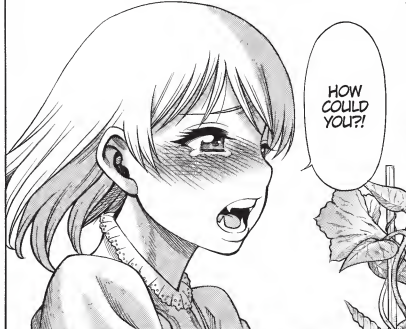
THAT
FLOWER...
IT'S
ALPHONSE.

HM
?

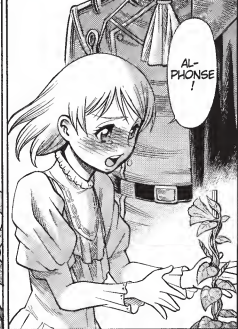


HE
TOLD
ME
ONCE.

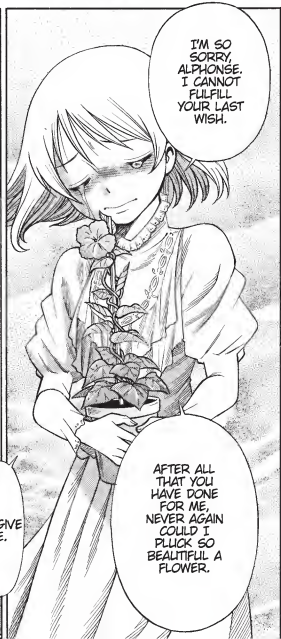
HE SAID
THAT IF HE
COULD BE
REBORN,
HE'D LIKE
TO BE A
FLOWER.



HOW
COULD
YOU?!



AL-
PHONSE
!

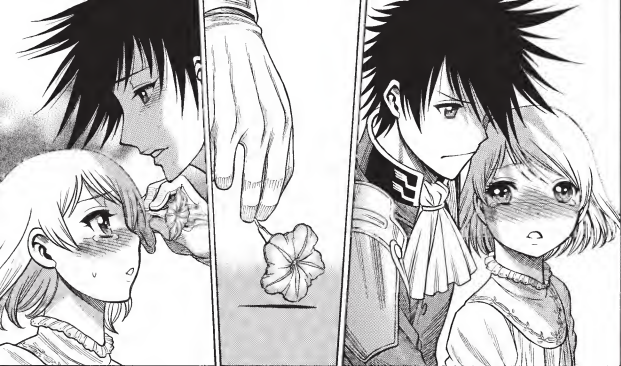


I'M SO
SORRY,
ALPHONSE.
I CANNOT
FULFILL
YOUR LAST
WISH.

FORGIVE
ME.

AFTER ALL
THAT YOU
HAVE DONE
FOR ME,
NEVER AGAIN
COULD I
PLUCK SO
BEAUTIFUL A
FLOWER.

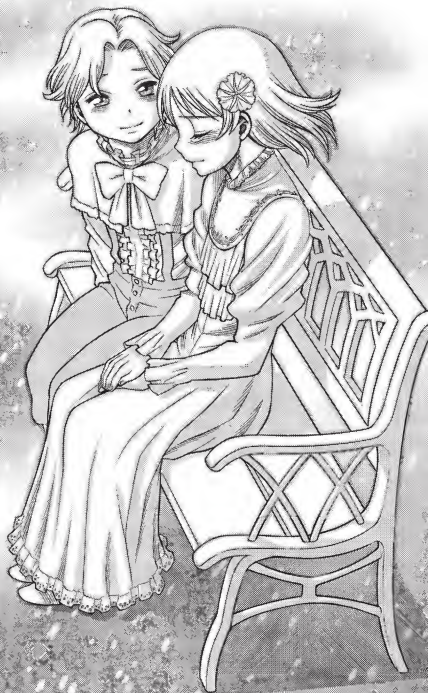


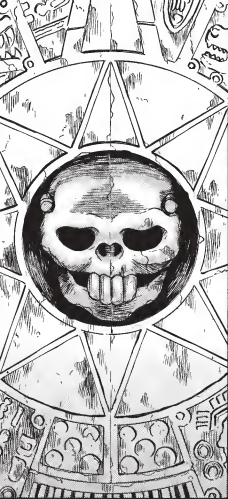


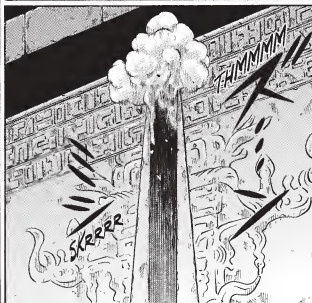
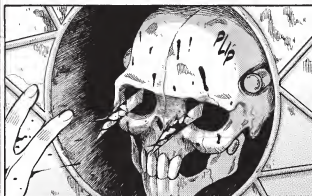
HIME-
SAMA...

I
SHALL
ALWAYS
BE BY
YOUR
SIDE.

ALWAYS...

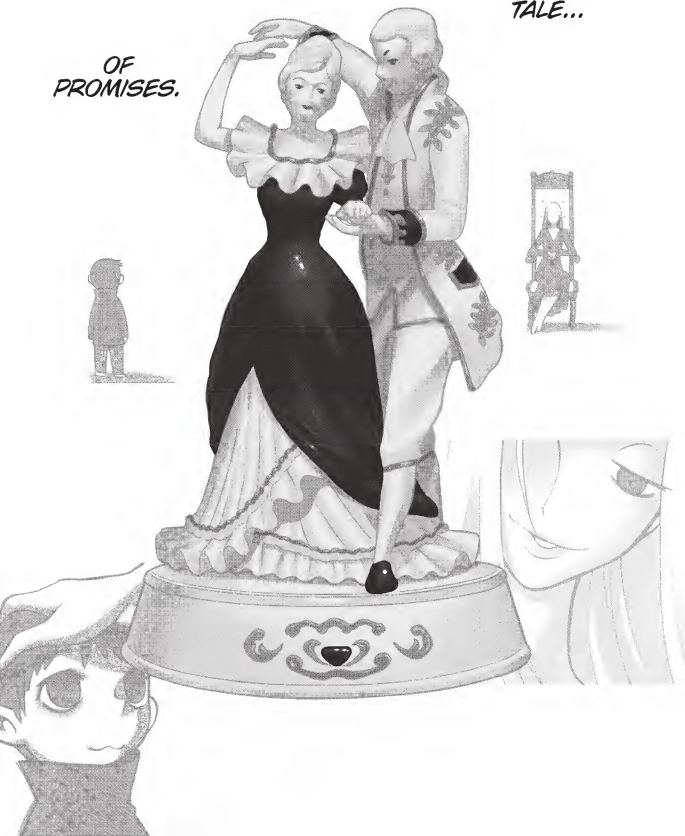




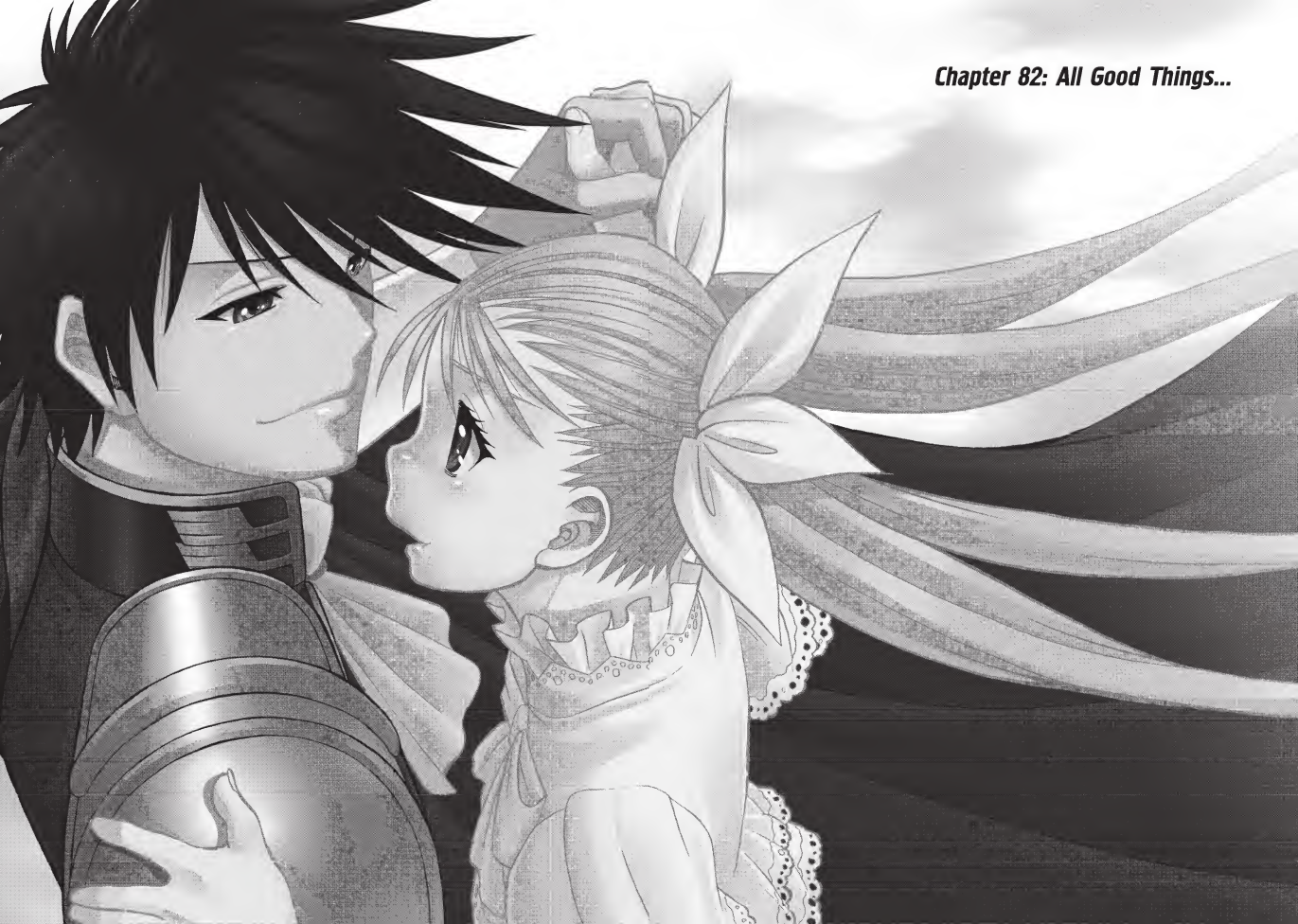


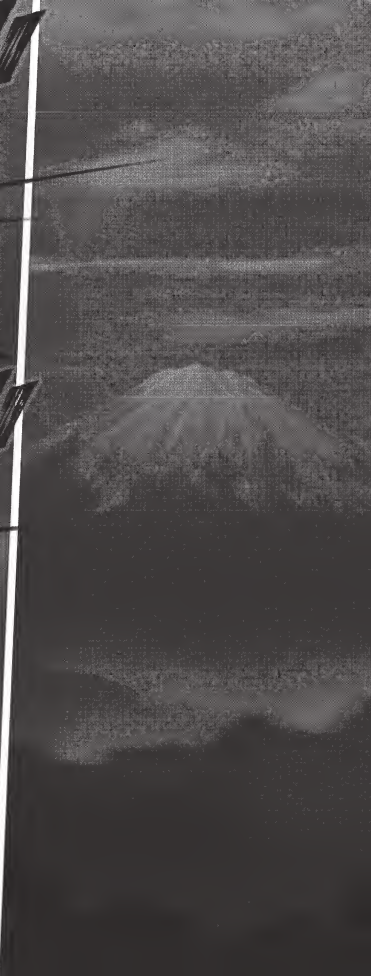
IT
WAS A
TALE...

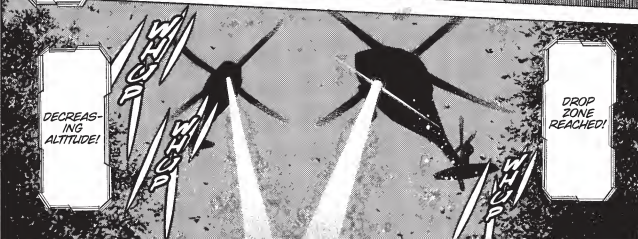
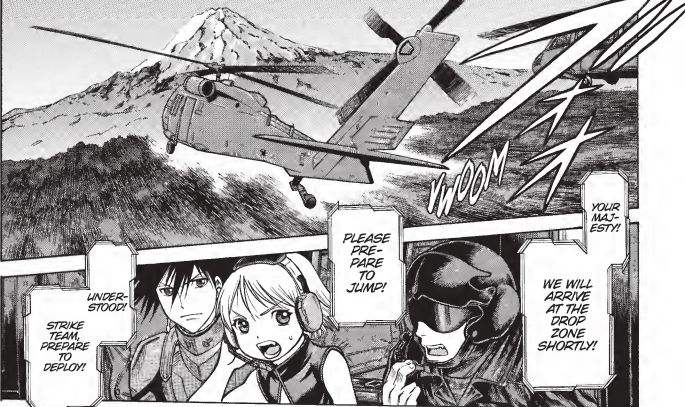
OF
PROMISES.

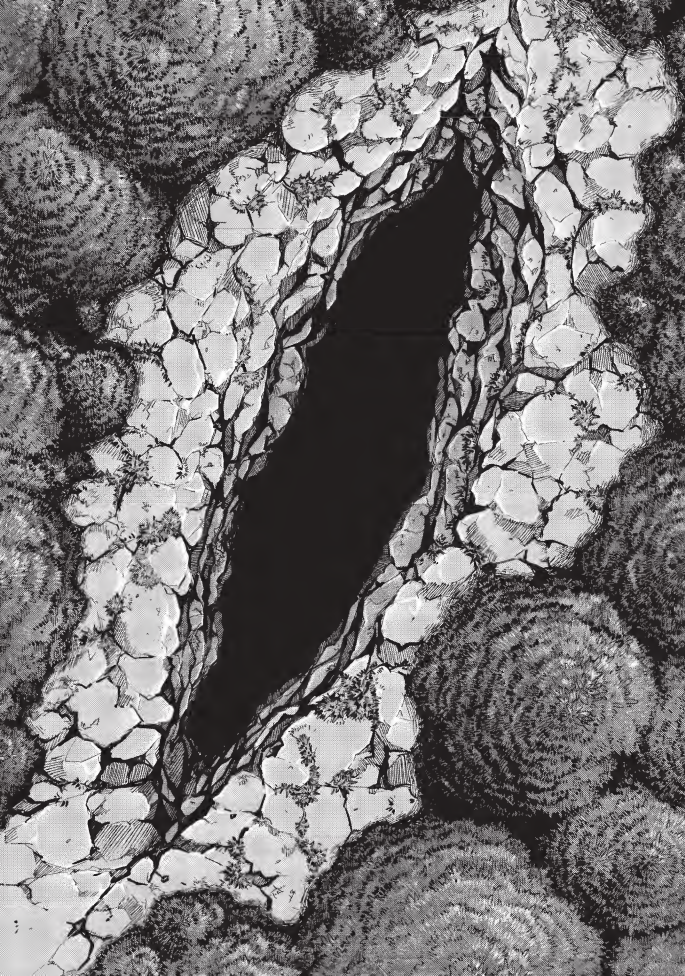


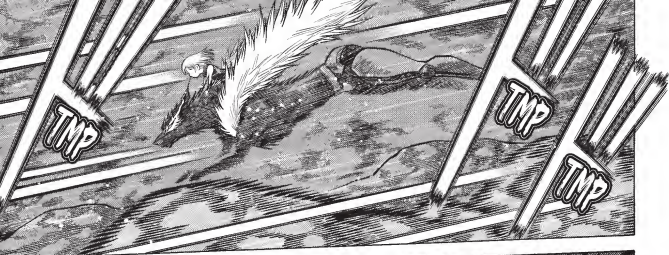
Chapter 82: All Good Things...











IS THE
TRAIL
THERE,
AKIRA?



THEN
YUKI
WAS
RIGHT!



SHE
HASN'T
LEFT
JAPAN
YET.
I'M SURE
OF IT.



SHE WANTS
IT SO BADLY
THAT SHE
USURPED THE
BLIND AND
MANUFACTURED
A DISASTER
IN JAPAN IN
ORDER TO
GET AT IT!

WHATEVER
IT IS, SHE
FOUND IT
ABOUT FIFTY
KILOMETERS
NORTHEAST
OF THE MAIN
MOUNTAIN.

THE ONLY REASON
I WAS ABLE TO
FIND THIS OUT WAS
BECAUSE SOMEONE
SENT ME THE
DOCUMENTS THAT
PUT ME ON THE
RIGHT TRAIL.

NO.

DID YOU
DISCOVER
ALL
THAT BY
YOURSELF?

YUKI,
YOU ARE
AMAZING!

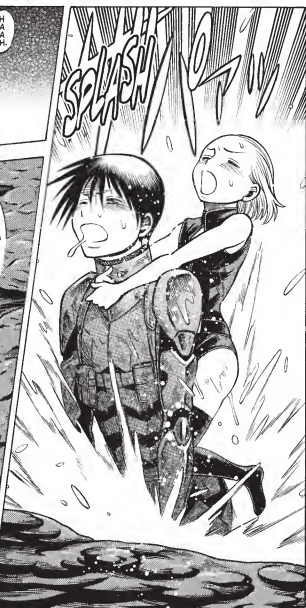
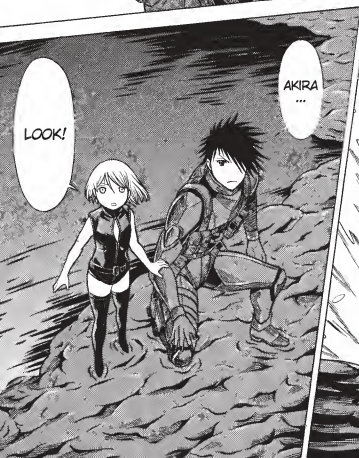
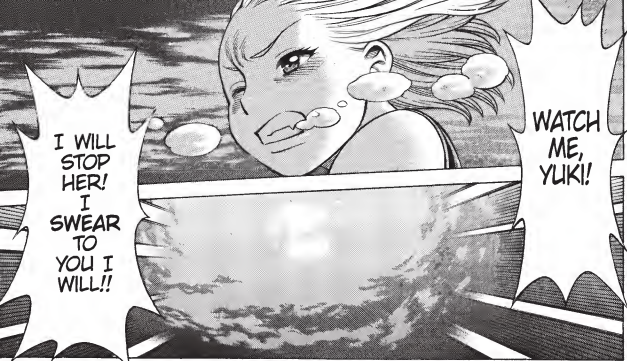
I THINK HE
GAVE IT TO
ME AS A
PRESENT
FOR COMING
UP WITH
THE RIGHT
ANSWER.

THE EXACT
LOCATION
WAS ON AN
SD CARD,
HIDDEN IN
A YUUGAO
PLANT.

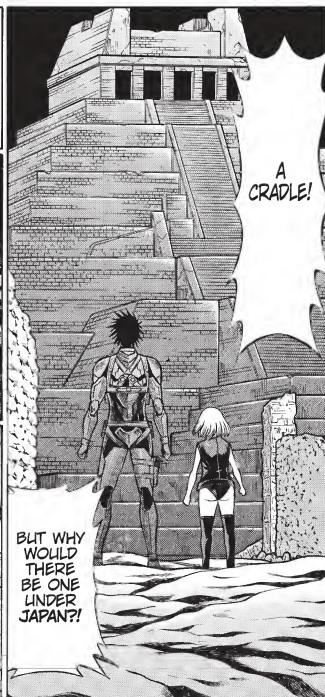
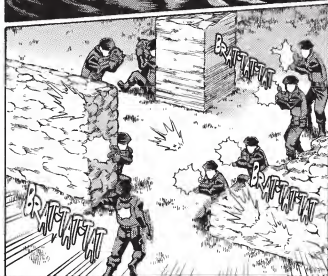
NOT JUST
FOR US,
BUT FOR
ALPHONSE'S
SAKE,
TOO!

HIME-SAMA,
PLEASE
CATCH HER
BEFORE
IT'S TOO
LATE!











YOUR
MAJ-
ESTY!



YOUR
MAJ-
ESTY!

YOU...
YOU'RE
ALL
RIGHT!

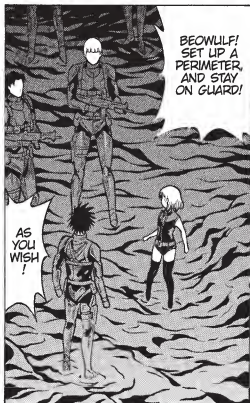
THANK
GOD
YOU'RE
OKAY!



HOLD
YOUR
FIRE!

I, YOUR
RIGHTFUL
QUEEN,
ORDER
YOU
TO PUT
DOWN
YOUR
WEAPONS
!!

DO
NOT
RESIST
US!



BEOWULF!
SET UP A
PERIMETER
AND STAY
ON GUARD!

AS
YOU
WISH
!



IN
THERE.



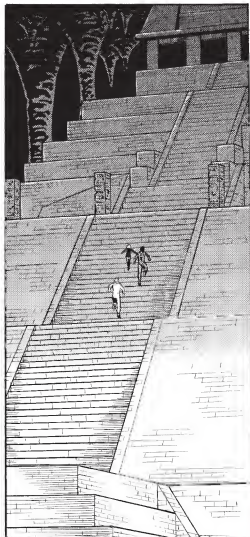
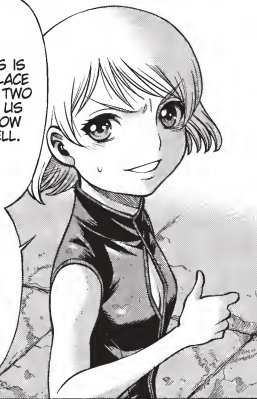
WHERE
IS
SHE?



YOU
GOT
IT!

THIS IS
A PLACE
THE TWO
OF US
KNOW
WELL.

AKIRA,
YOU
AND I
WILL
GO IN.



ALL
RIGHT,
YOU
MAY
JOIN
US.

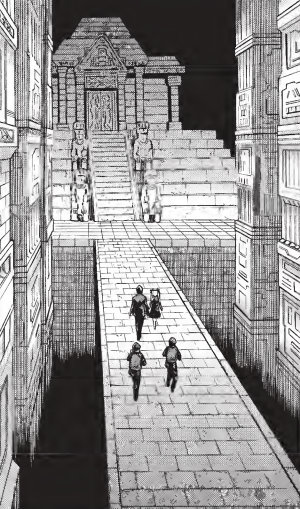
TRY
TO
KEEP
UP!

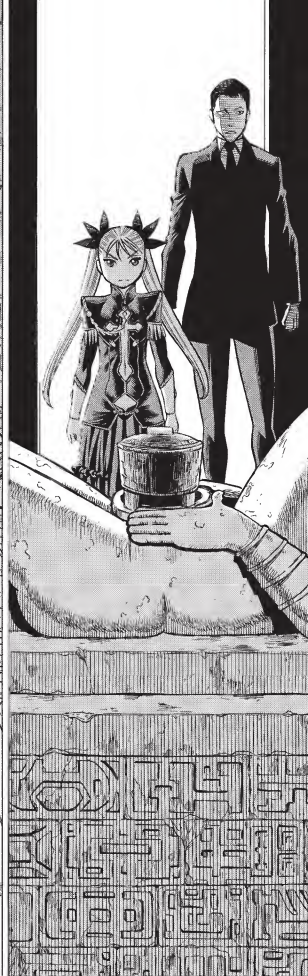


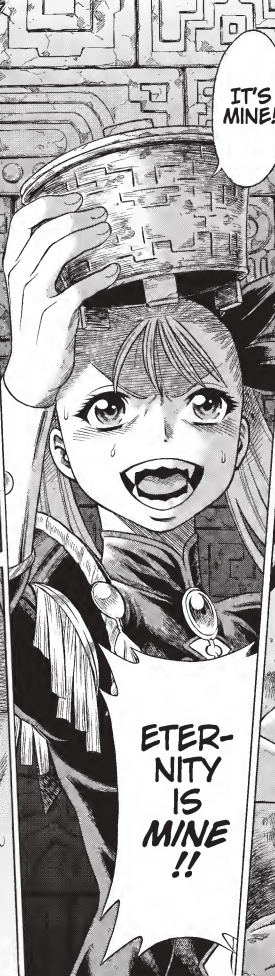
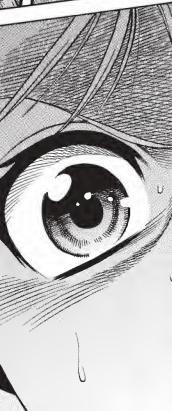
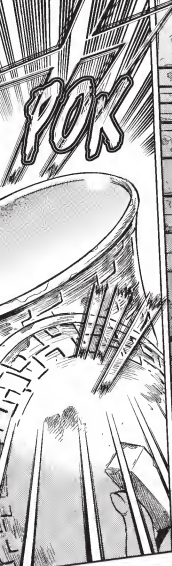
YOUR
MAJ-
ESTY,
WAIT!

SOME
OF MY
COMPAN-
IONS MAY
STILL BE
IN THERE,
CONTINU-
ING THE
EXCAVA-
TION.

PLEASE
ALLOW
ME TO
ACCOMPANY
YOU.

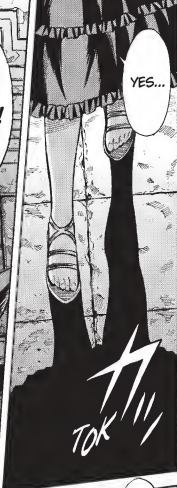






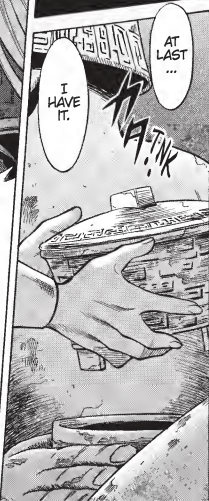
IT'S MINE!

ETER-
NITY
IS
MINE
!!



YES...

TOK!!!



I
HAVE
IT.

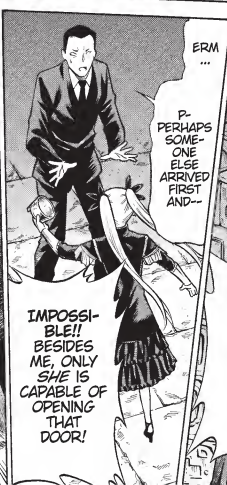
AT
LAST
...



WH-
WHAT
IS
THIS
...?



DAMN
IT!!



ERM
...

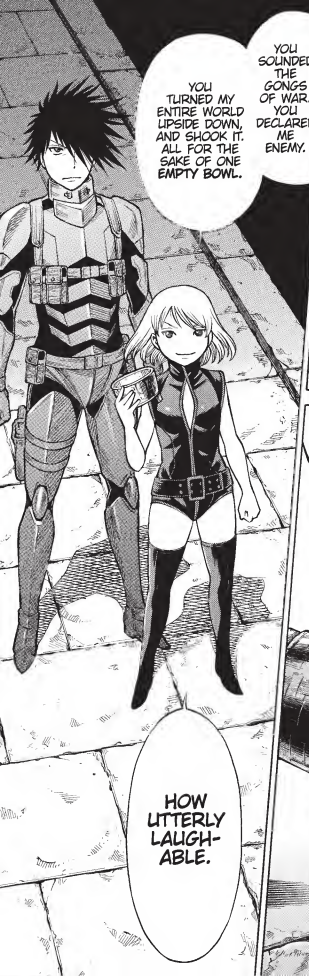
P-
PERHAPS
SOME-
ONE
ELSE
ARRIVED
FIRST
AND--

IMPOSSI-
BLE!!
BESIDES
ME, ONLY
SHE IS
CAPABLE OF
OPENING
THAT
DOOR!



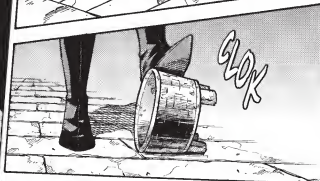
WHY
?!
TELL
ME
!!

WHAT IS
THE
MEANING
OF
THIS?!



YOU
TURNED MY
ENTIRE WORLD
UPSIDE DOWN,
AND SHOOK IT.
ALL FOR THE
SAKE OF ONE
EMPTY BOWL.

YOU
SOUNDED
THE
GONGS
OF WAR.
YOU
DECLARED
ME
ENEMY.

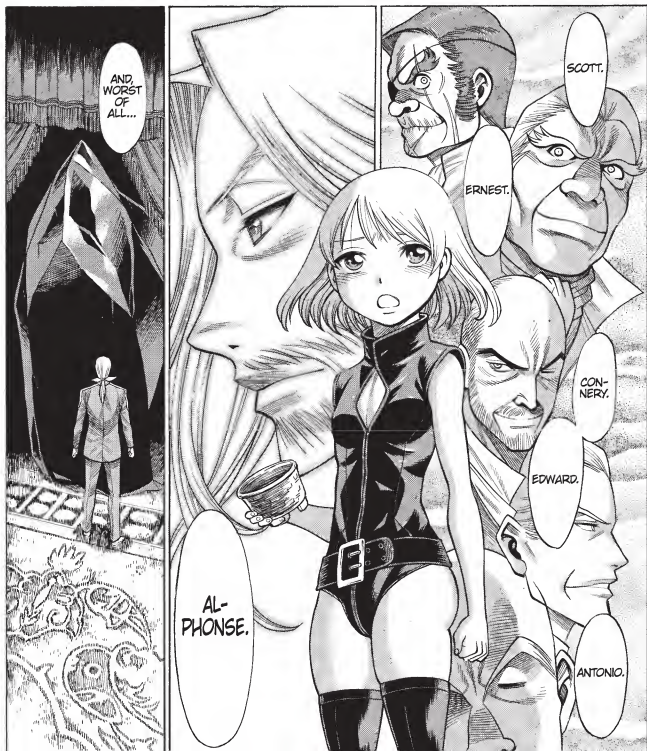


I DON'T
KNOW
WHAT IT
IS YOU
HAVE BEEN
SEARCHING
FOR...

HOW
LITTERLY
LAUGH-
ABLE.

BUT IT SEEMS
OBVIOUS THAT
WHATEVER
YOU FOUND
WASN'T
TO YOUR
LIKING.







HAH
...



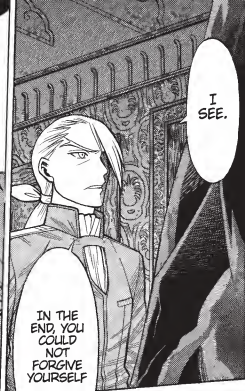
AHA
HA
HA
HA!

OH,
HOW
VERY
ROYAL
OF
YOU!

SUCH
VALOR,
SUCH
NOBLE
SENTI-
MENT!

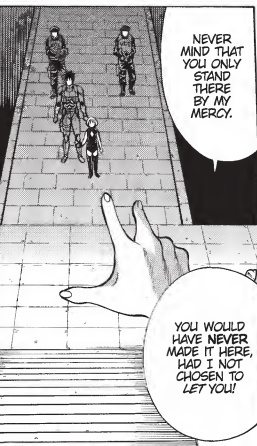


YOU
WILL
PAY
FOR
THAT!!



I
SEE.

IN THE
END, YOU
COULD
NOT
FORGIVE
YOURSELF
...



NEVER
MIND THAT
YOU ONLY
STAND
THERE
BY MY
MERCY.

YOU WOULD
HAVE NEVER
MADE IT HERE,
HAD I NOT
CHOSEN TO
LET YOU!

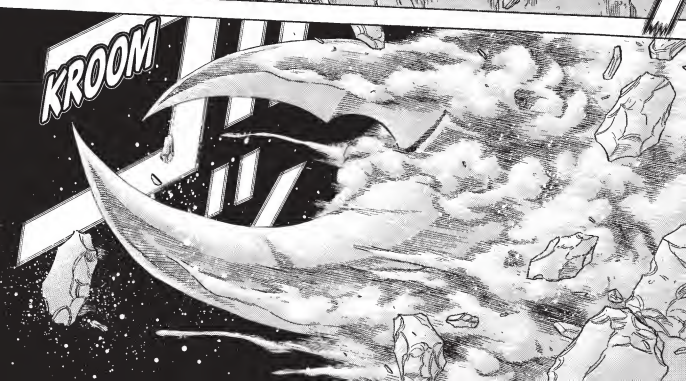
I SHALL
HAVE MY
VEN-
GEANCE
FOR
EACH
AND
EVERY
ONE OF
THEM!!



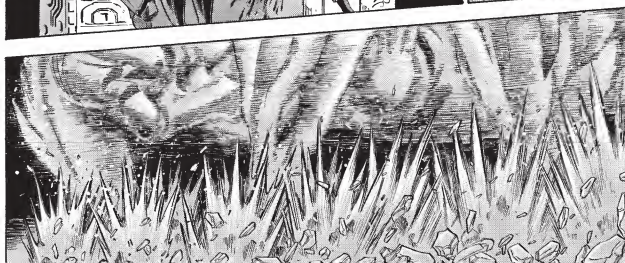
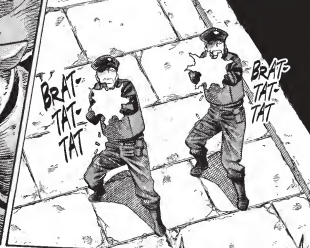
VERA-
DONO.

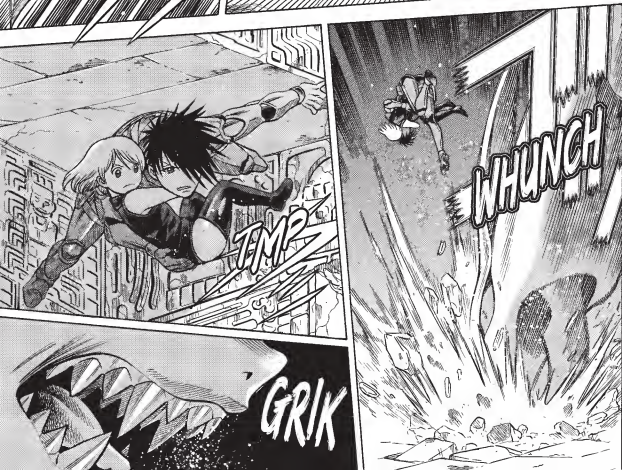


SILENCE!!!







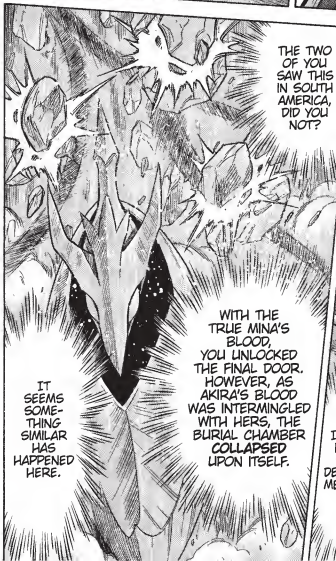








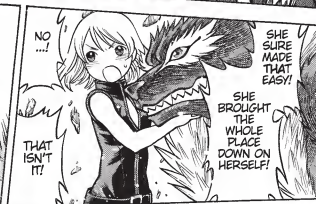
WHAT
THE
--?!



THE TWO
OF YOU
SAW THIS
IN SOUTH
AMERICA,
DID YOU
NOT?

IT
SEEMS
SOME-
THING
SIMILAR
HAS
HAPPENED
HERE.

WITH THE
TRUE MINA'S
BLOOD,
YOU UNLOCKED
THE FINAL DOOR.
HOWEVER, AS
AKIRA'S BLOOD
WAS INTERMINGLED
WITH HERS, THE
BURIAL CHAMBER
COLLAPSED
UPON ITSELF.



NO
....

THAT
ISN'T
IT!

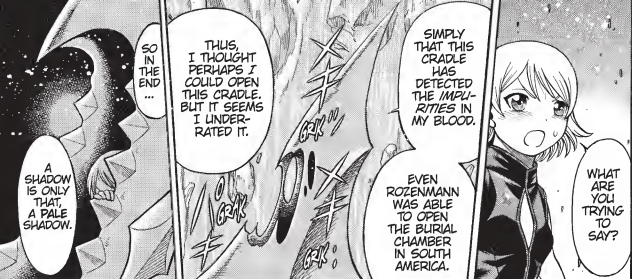
SHE
SURE
MADE
THAT
EASY!

SHE
BROUGHT
THE
WHOLE
PLACE
DOWN ON
HERSELF!



HA!
IT LOOKS
LIKE THIS
CRADLE IS
THE SAME
AS THE
OTHER,
IN MORE
THAN ONE
WAY.

IT, TOO,
HAS A
SELF-
DESTRUCT
MEASURE.



A
SHADOW
IS ONLY
THAT,
A PALE
SHADOW.

SO
IN
THE
END
...

THUS,
I THOUGHT
PERHAPS I
COULD OPEN
THIS CRADLE.
BUT IT SEEMS
I UNDER-
RATED IT.

SIMPLY
THAT THIS
CRADLE
HAS
DETECTED
THE IMPLU-
RITIES IN
MY BLOOD.

EVEN
ROZENMANN
WAS ABLE
TO OPEN
THE BURIAL
CHAMBER
IN SOUTH
AMERICA.

WHAT
ARE
YOU
TRYING
TO
SAY?



WHA
...?

MINA,
THE ONE
WHO BEARS
THE PURE
BLOOD OF
TEPES.

THIS
HOLY
LAND
WILL
ACCEPT
ONLY
ONE...

YOU.

WAIT
A
MINUTE
...

WHO...
WHAT
ARE
YOU?!

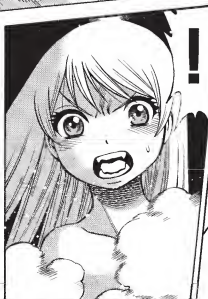


YOU
DARE
?

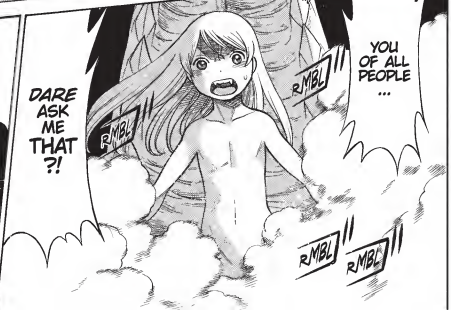
THMM

YOU
DARE
?!

THMM



DARE
ASK
ME
THAT
?!



YOU
OF ALL
PEOPLE
...

RMBL

RMBL

RMBL

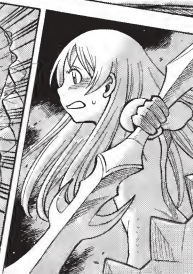
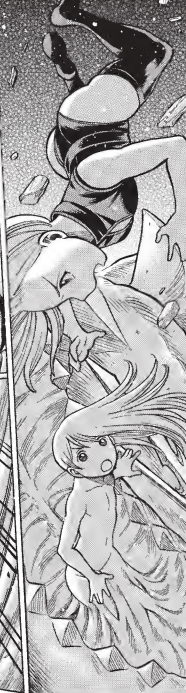
RMBL



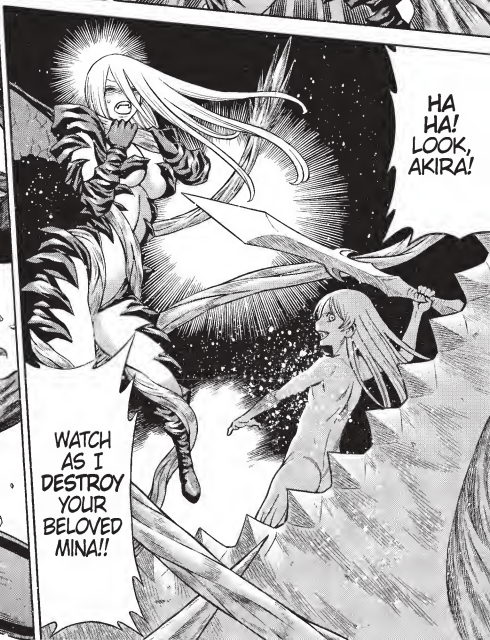
THAT'S
IT,
HIME-
SAN!

YOU
...

ARE
NOT
MY
HIME-
SAN!







WATCH
AS I
DESTROY
YOUR
BELOVED
MINA!!

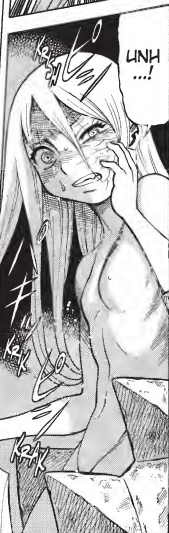
HA
HA!
LOOK,
AKIRA!



NGAH!!

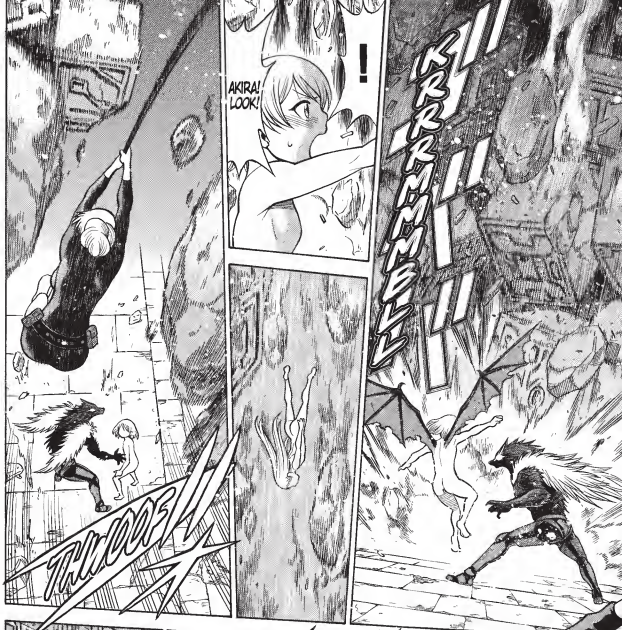


DON'T LOOK!











THIS PLACE HAS HAD IT! WE GOTTA GET OUT, FAST!!

CURSE IT ALL!



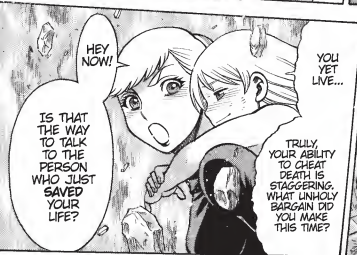
WAIT!

COME BACK HERE!



SORRY!

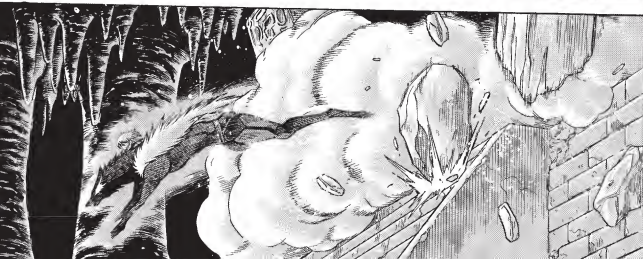
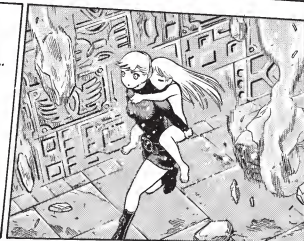
IT'D BE A LITTLE INCONVENIENT TO HAVE HER DIE ON ME JUST YET!



HEY NOW!

YOU YET LIVE...

TRULY, YOUR ABILITY TO CHEAT DEATH IS STAGGERING. WHAT UNHOLY BARGAIN DID YOU MAKE THIS TIME?





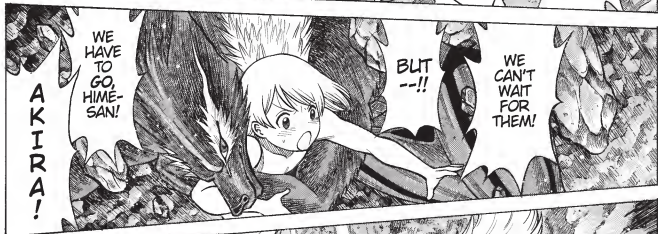
THIS
WHOLE
CAVERN
IS
ABOUT
TO
COLLAPSE
!

PULL
OUT!



HAVE
THE
FANG-
LESS
RETURN-
ED?!

WHAT
ABOUT
JII'S
FATHER?

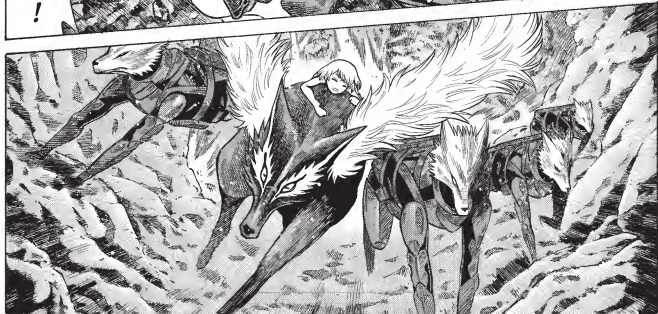


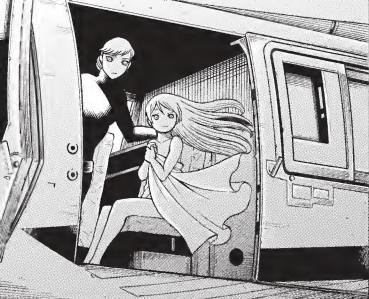
WE
HAVE
TO
GO,
HIME-
SAN!

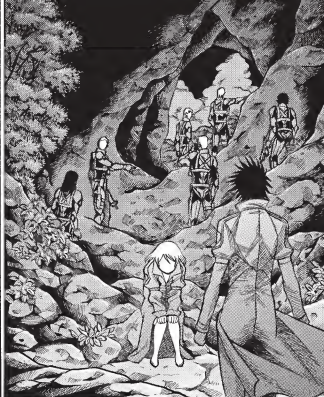
AKIRA!

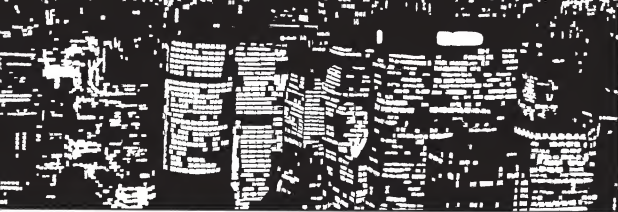
BUT
--!!

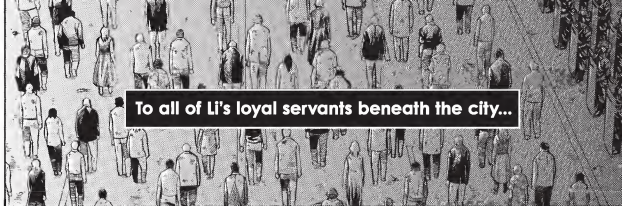
WE
CAN'T
WAIT
FOR
THEM!



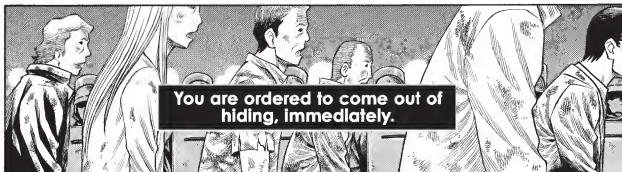




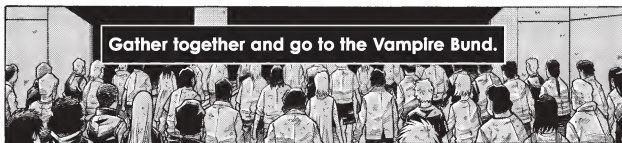




To all of Li's loyal servants beneath the city...



You are ordered to come out of hiding, immediately.



Gather together and go to the Vampire Bund.



To the Vampire Bund...

For the glory of Clan Li!



LET US
RETURN
AS
WELL.



WELL,
THAT DOES IT.
THEY'VE
CONFIRMED
THAT MASS
NUMBERS OF
VAMPIRES
HAVE
STARTED TO
MOVE.

THEY'RE
ALL
HEADED
TO THE
BLIND.



SO
THAT'S
IT.
IT'S ALL
OVER...

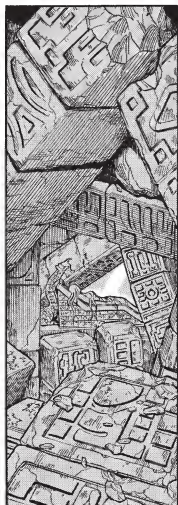
I
GUESS.

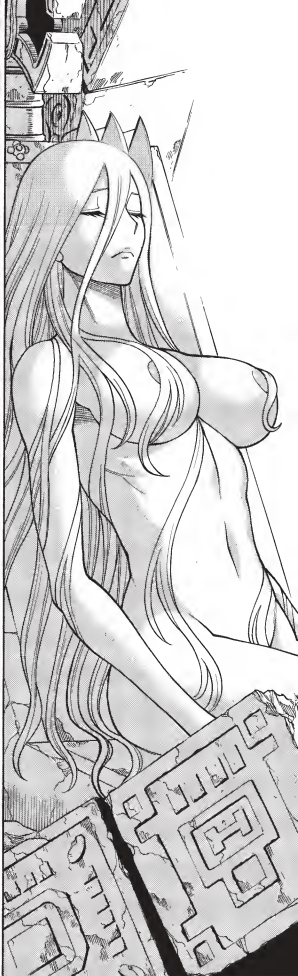
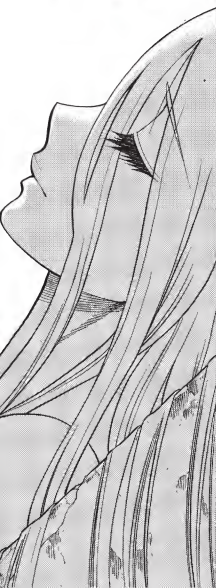


TO OUR
HOME...

WHERE
EVERYONE
WE LOVE
AWAITS
US.

—MEANWHILE, IN THE AMAZON JUNGLE OF SOUTH AMERICA—







Staff

Kenichi Nakamono
Takashi Komatsu
Yuusuke Takiguchi
Haruna Oda

Special Thanks

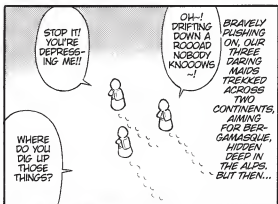
Hiroshi Yakumo
Kimiko Kimata

True Form Designs

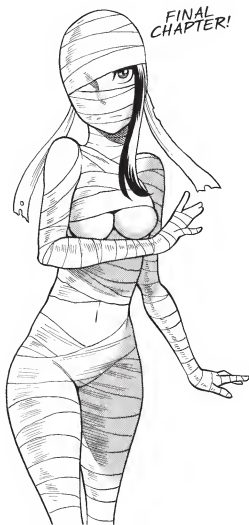
Masayuki Fujihara

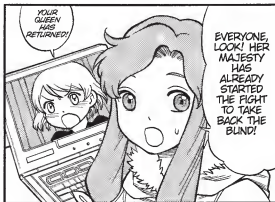
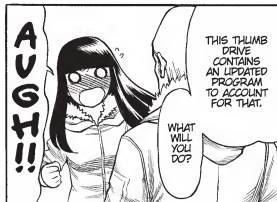
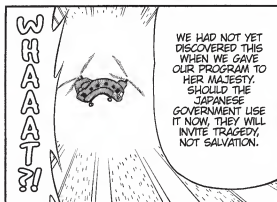
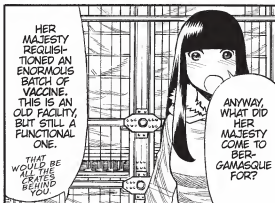
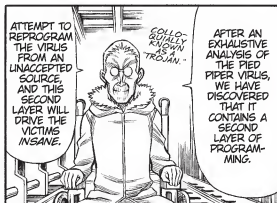


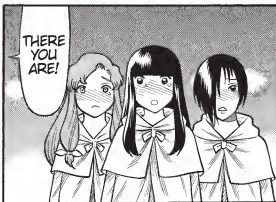
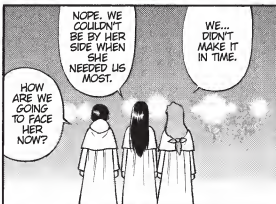
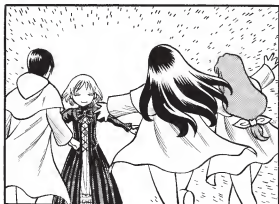
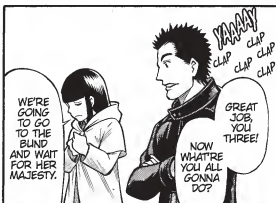
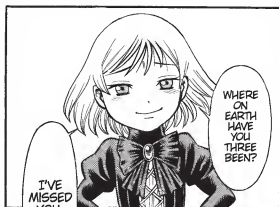
-END OF PART I-



DANCE with the VAMPIRE MAID







TO BE CONTINUED...?